

## ARMY



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## THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

IN declaring that the recent report of the Board of Visitors at the Military Academy "has awakened a greater and more general interest than has ever been manifested in any previous report," General SCHRIVER pays a just tribute to a striking document. What we want from a Visiting Board, as regards any public institution, is not a sycophantic acquiescence in whatever is found established, a blind belief in the theory that, "whatever is, is right," a careless, superficial, and unfruitful review, in some general meaningless phrases, of the work they are sent to examine. It is precisely because of the variety and the vigor of the late Board's suggestions in reference to West Point, that it has special value, and is entitled to more consideration than mere opinionless twaddle would merit.

And, on the other hand, it is to be expected and desired that the officers of the Military Academy should present their views with similar frankness and force. For the wisest legislation, Congress needs to know both sides of any question—the progressive and the conservative, or, we might even say, the aggressive and defensive. That it will get all sides of the leading questions regarding discipline, instruction, appointments, facilities, and possibilities at West Point, from the Board's report on the one hand, and the Inspector's on the other, is quite clear; and it will do well if it deals with each on its absolute merits.

It is pleasant to observe, to begin with, that after an almost unprecedented severity of scrutiny, the Board heartily approved the present state of discipline in the Academy, and found the relations of officers and cadets all that could be desired. Turning to the subject of instruction, they were "unanimous in the conviction that the results manifested in the examinations are in the highest degree honorable to the cadets, and to the officers of the instruction and government." The whole corps of instructors furnished proof of "conscientious fidelity and eminent attainment."

When, however, the Board proceeded to criticize the course of studies now pursued at the Point, they lay their own views open to criticism. They complain that the high course of mathematics and physics has "left little or no time for instruction in those branches which have to do with method, elegance, and clearness of expression." The Board fear that the cadets lack "good English style;" believe that "more training in probable reasoning, composition, and criticism, is exceedingly desirable;" consider that "in elegance and facility of utterance, there is a marked deficiency;" and are impressed with the conviction that "a higher degree of culture in the English language, as used in writing and speech, would add greatly to the efficiency of the future officers of our Army." On this point of "rapid and correct composition," the Board are especially earnest, and they elaborate it through many paragraphs.

Now, while we would not underrate the subject in question, it seems to us comparatively a small one. It occurs to us that men who are not expected to shine hereafter as *sayers* but as *doers*, whose functions are to be, not descriptive, but executive, whom we hope to make our Alexanders rather than our Homers, ought to devote the brief course at West Point to other studies than rhetoric. Our belief is that there is already quite enough rhetoric in the Army, on an average, and that the power of adroit and elegant expression has been sufficiently developed. Few people who do anything lack power to tell it themselves, or find friends who will tell it properly for them. It is almost a relief sometimes to find a want of "facility of expression;" and quite sure are we that the first in fame of living soldiers, General GRANT, would not have done with it a whit better for his country, his friends, or himself. Let us not be understood as undervaluing a good English style, even in a soldier; but all we mean to say is, that the terse, epigrammatic, simple, direct, and often rude and homely expressions, which, time without mind, have been the characteristic "soldierly style," are enough for practical purposes. Besides, as youths come from their studies into the busy world, and take on experience with years, and confidence with experience, their powers of strong and elegant expression develop. It is probable that nowhere in the country, are better opportunities to be found for watching this development and for generalizing regarding it, than in the office of this journal. Communications come to it from all parts of the Army, and all parts of the Navy—now private letters, now public—from officers of all grades. It is simple justice to declare that, in what we say regarding officers' styles, we speak from a wide experience; and weaver that the "correspondence columns" of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL enjoy a certain special reputation for ability, vivacity, and usefulness throughout the press, and especially in the military and other committees of Congress. But, with no intent to offend, we must subjoin frankly that, if asked to print *verbatim*, as a communication, such a specimen of English style as the report of the Board of Visitors furnishes, we should do it with the greatest reluctance. We do not believe that an array of sonorous words in "osity" and "ation" (what LOWELL calls "writing long-tailed") constitutes "good English style." We repeat that it is only because it is fair to criticize the public criticism of a critic, that we now take a single specimen, absolutely at random, from the first page of the report, as follows:

We found the information of the Superintendent in regard to officers and cadets, through the various subordinates, by means of orders and reports and personal intercourse, reaching in the matter of instruction and discipline to such minuteness as to suggest almost a ubiquitous consciousness. The manner of exercising this observation, accompanied by authority, is often determinative of the quality of that unconscious tuition which goes on in an institution of learning, whether in the section-room or out, whether the instructor is present or absent; a tuition neither regulated by the curriculum nor by lectures or orders, but rather the resultant of these and of all influences which enter into the life of the students. Its effect is likely to be wholesome or not in the degree that it is attractive or repulsive, or in proportion as it secures the co-operation or opposition of the minds under cultivation.

We protest that it would only be the sound idea contained in this loose and involved paragraph

(which we have quoted *verbatim*) that would ordinarily induce the JOURNAL to print it. Certainly its "elegant expression" would not save it; and as this is quite as good as any other passage in the report, we must say that if this be the "clear and compact" style desired, we should advise the cadets to stick to their mathematics and physics. We are told that "the capacity to draw up reports with absolute freedom from confusion of arrangement, and ambiguity of expression is of the highest value." Is it such "reports" as their own that the Board refer to?

The Board, again, advise the study of pure logic. They say:

It also appears to the Board that a short course of instruction should be given in those elements of scientific methods common to all departments of thought and founded in an analysis of the human mind. The logic of evidence is essential to the comprehension of the distinction between demonstrative and inductive reasoning.

We seriously doubt whether it would be desirable to add instruction in logic to the crowded course at West Point, and even whether the comprehension of its technical distinctions is at all necessary either in military life or any other. WHATELY has argued with great address the uses of logic; and we see that, at Harvard, a resident graduate gives daily lessons on the practical application of logic; but we often think, with FLEURY, that the usefulness of logic would be more apparent, did we not find so many people arguing badly who know it, and so many people arguing well who do not.

We must dissent, also, from the urgent recommendations of the Board regarding increased study of metaphysics and ethics. "A proper scheme of ethics, and a true system of moral science must be the basis of all law, civil or military," say the Board. But we must not forget that the education of the cadets is directed to a specific object, and that we do not prepare them for the pulpit and the school-room, but for the camp and the saddle. And, above all, our officers are men whose lives are governed by positive enactment; and hence abstract principles of ethics have no proper place in their educational training, except as connected with those basic rules of morality that underlie a broad humanity, and cannot be gained or lost by scholastic instruction.

Two very important points in the Board's reports are the recommendation of a higher standard of admission to the Academy, and a general reorganization of the Academy on a larger scale. These points we discussed fully when the synopsis of the Board's report was published, some months ago, and shall discuss again when Congress reaches the subject; and accordingly it is with less reluctance that we now give them but brief mention. It seems to us that in these recommendations, the Board manifests a liberal and patriotic spirit, and a genuine appreciation of the needs, not only present but prospective, of the country. We do not recall a more hearty tribute than this to the West Point of the present, or a more earnest aim to surpass this present institution by the West Point of the future.

In answer to a request presented by a delegation from Florida, for troops to aid the civil authorities in enforcing the laws of that State, the President promised to confer with the Secretary of War on the subject, and see that measures were taken to maintain the peace.



## THE ARMY.

COMPANY C, Sixteenth Infantry, was relieved, Dec. 14th, from further duty at the post of Jackson, Mississippi, and ordered to resume its proper station—Vicksburg.

BREVET Major David Krause, captain Fourteenth Infantry, having reported at the Headquarters Fourth Military District with a detachment of one hundred recruits for the Sixteenth Infantry, in compliance with orders from Headquarters of the General Recruiting Service, is ordered to report his detachment to the commanding officer post of Jackson, for quarters and rations, until the recruits are assigned to companies by the commanding officer Sixteenth Infantry.

A LETTER from Fort Defiance, Arizona Territory, dated the 2d instant, gives a very encouraging report from the Navajo Indians, who are said to be now selecting their homes upon that portion of the reservation which has already been surveyed preparatory to entering into agricultural pursuits. They have lately received 15,000 head of sheep and goats, purchased under the direction of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. They are very much delighted with this present from the Government, and it has had a tendency to impress them very favorably with their present relations with the Department. Large numbers of these Indians were engaged in farming last year, having raised a considerable amount of grain, and now it is thought nearly all the heads of families will devote their attention to agriculture. Some few bands belonging to this tribe are roving through the country, but efforts are making by the chiefs and their agents to bring them all upon the reservation. A census has recently been taken showing that this tribe now numbers about 8,000. The Indians assert that the annuity goods which have just been furnished them are of a very superior quality, and that they feel that the treaty made with them by General Sherman and Colonel Tappan will be faithfully carried out.

In a letter of information to Congress, Surgeon-General Barnes reports that, in accordance with an act appropriating six thousand dollars for the care, support, and medical treatment of sixty transient paupers, medical and surgical patients, in some proper medical or charitable institution in the city of Washington, he has contracted with the Providence Hospital, in Washington, in which, for the consideration of five hundred dollars per month, that institution engages to keep in constant readiness sixty beds for patients who may be lawfully sent to said hospital, up to the number of sixty. As the contract was entered into, on the part of the Providence Hospital, at a positive loss, he hopes that an additional appropriation may be made on the meeting of Congress. The Surgeon-General recommends that the further sum of six thousand dollars be appropriated.

In another letter, transmitting the statement of expenditures under the act of Congress for the completion of Providence Hospital, the Surgeon-General reports that the building has been completed and is in every respect admirably adapted for the medical and surgical treatment of two hundred patients; and recommends that a small appropriation be granted for the erection of a suitable detached building in the rear of the main centre, which shall contain a sufficient number of strong single wards, or light cells, for the proper care and medical treatment of such cases of temporary insanity as are not entitled to admission to the Government Asylum for the Insane, and cannot, with safety, be kept in private houses or the ordinary wards of a hospital.

Under authority from the Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, and with the approval of the Secretary of War, the use of the public buildings at Howard Grove Hospital, until the Legislature shall otherwise provide, are turned over by Brevet Major-General Canby, commanding First Military District, to the State of Virginia, for the purpose of establishing a temporary lunatic asylum, and such of the hospital furniture, supplies, and other property as may be needed, transferred to the State at its appraised value. The colored insane throughout the State, will be transferred with as little delay as practicable, to this hospital and all the white divided between the Eastern and Western lunatic asylums.

The insane and indigent patients now at Howard Grove Hospital, who are not residents of, or properly a charge upon, the State, will be transferred to the hospital in Washington City.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon R. H. McKay, U. S. Army, was ordered, December 18th, from Saint Louis, Mo., to Fort Sill, I. T.

## ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS.

(Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending December 20, 1869.)

Tuesday, December 14th.

THE extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Captain George F. Foote, first lieutenant, temporarily attached to the Ninth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 142, November 9, 1869, from Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended thirty days.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of Congress approved July 28, 1866, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James Thompson, captain U. S. Army (retired), is hereby detailed as professor of military science for the Indiana State University at Bloomington, Indiana.

The telegraphic order of the 11th instant, from this office, directing the commanding general Fourth Military District to order First Lieutenant E. C. Henshaw, unattached, to report to Brevet Brigadier-General Reeve, New York City, to conduct recruits, is hereby confirmed. Upon completion of the duties to which he may be assigned by General Reeve, Lieutenant Henshaw will await orders.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant S. W. Groesbeck, Sixth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 213, November 12, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended forty days.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major John B. Vande Wiele, captain Tenth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 169, September 13, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended ninety days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant George F. Price, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 179, September 13, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended seventy days.

The resignations of the following-named officers have been accepted by the President, to take effect from the dates set opposite their respective names, on condition that they receive no final payments until they shall have satisfied the Pay Department that they are not indebted to the United States: Capt. Henry C. Wharton, Corps of Engineers, January 6, 1870; Second Lieutenant William C. Fitzsimmons, Fourth U. S. Artillery, December 13, 1869.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Brevet Brigadier-General R. W. Kirkham, deputy quartermaster-general, will report to the commanding general Military Division of the South for assignment to duty as chief quartermaster of that Division, relieving Brevet Major-General R. O. Tyler, deputy quartermaster-general. General Tyler, upon being relieved by General Kirkham, will report to the commanding general Military Division of the Missouri for assignment to duty.

The leave of absence granted Captain Robert P. Wilson, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 226, November 17, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended three months.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Captain R. H. Montgomery, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 185, September 20, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended forty days.

The telegraphic order of the 12th instant, from this office, granting First Lieutenant J. P. Walker, unattached, permission to delay ten days before reporting to Brevet Brigadier-General Reeve, New York City, to conduct recruits, is hereby confirmed.

It appearing that Brevet Captain Greenleaf Cilley, first lieutenant First U. S. Cavalry, withdrew his resignation, with the consent of his department commander, before it was accepted, the said acceptance, dated September 22, 1869, announced in Special Orders No. 230, paragraph 5, from this office, September 24, 1869, is, by direction of the President, hereby cancelled.

Wednesday, December 15th.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Thomas Blair, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 255, October 25, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended six months. Permission to go beyond sea is granted by the Secretary of War.

The extension of leave of absence granted Post Chaplain O. E. Herrick, in Special Orders No. 243, October 9, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended ten days.

The extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Major James S. Casey, captain Fifth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 151, November 29, 1869, from Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, is hereby further extended twenty days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant C. H. Shepard, Ninth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 244, October 12, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended thirty days.

First Lieutenant Oliver Wetmore, Jr., Nineteenth U. S. Infantry, will report to Brevet Brigadier-General Reeve, superintendent General Recruiting Service, New York City, to conduct the first detachment of recruits leaving Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, for his regiment.

Hospital Steward John C. Williams, U. S. Army, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, on account of incompetency.

The superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, will forward without delay, under proper charge, all disposable colored recruits at that post to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, from whence they will be forwarded to the Tenth U. S. Cavalry, subject to the orders of the commanding general Department of the Missouri relative to their movement.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major J. H. Kellogg, captain U. S. Army (retired), is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters while on duty as professor of civil engineering and military tactics at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, New Jersey, under authority granted by letter of August 25,

1866, from this office, confirmed by Special Orders No. 434, August 30, 1866, from this office.

Thursday, December 16th.

Permission to delay reporting at his station until January 1, 1870, is hereby granted Captain John E. Blaine, military storekeeper, Quartermaster's Department.

Upon the expiration of the leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 159, July 2, 1869, from this office, Brevet Captain R. H. Pratt, first lieutenant Tenth U. S. Cavalry, will report in person to the commanding officer Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to conduct the next detachment of recruits leaving that post for his regiment.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel T. W. Custer, first lieutenant Seventh U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 278, November 23, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended three months.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. Cook, first lieutenant Seventh U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 277, November 22, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended three months.

Friday, December 17th.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant C. S. Medary, Third U. S. Artillery, in Special Orders No. 242, October 28, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended four months.

Upon the receipt of this order, Captain Thomas H. Norton (brevet major), Eleventh U. S. Infantry, will be dropped from the rolls of his regiment, and will proceed to his home and await orders.

First Lieutenant George F. Foote (brevet captain), temporarily attached to the Ninth U. S. Infantry, is, by direction of the President, hereby transferred to that regiment and will report to the regimental commander for assignment to Company H.

Second Lieutenant Forrest H. Hathaway (brevet captain), unattached, is, by direction of the President, hereby transferred to the Fifth U. S. Infantry, and will report, without delay, to the commanding officer of that regiment at Fort Harker, Kansas, for assignment to duty. Transportation will not be furnished by the Government, nor will mileage be allowed for travel performed under this order.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Winfield S. Matson, Ninth U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect January 1, 1870, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

Upon the application of the officers concerned, approved by their regimental commanders, the following transfers are hereby announced: First Lieutenant James T. Peale, Second U. S. Cavalry, from Company E to Company M; First Lieutenant Randolph Norwood, Second U. S. Cavalry, from Company M to Company E; Second Lieutenant Charles H. Rea, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, from Company B to Company F. The officers above named will join their proper stations without delay.

The leave of absence, with permission from the Secretary of War to visit Nassau, New Providence, granted Brevet Major-General E. Upton, lieutenant-colonel Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 255, October 25, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended three days.

Saturday, December 18th.

A board of medical officers, to consist of Surgeon Basil Norris, brevet colonel, Assistant Surgeon J. J. Woodward, brevet lieutenant-colonel, Assistant Surgeon Geo. A. Oris, brevet lieutenant-colonel, will assemble at the office of the Surgeon-General of the Army at 12 m., Monday, 20th inst., to examine and report upon the fitness of Brevet First Lieutenant George W. Kingsbury, second lieutenant, unattached, for active duty. The junior member of the board will record the proceedings.

Leave of absence for ninety days is hereby granted Paymaster Dwight Bannister. This leave to take effect from the date of leaving his department.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major S. A. Russell, captain Seventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 226, November 17, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended ninety days.

On receipt of this order, Captain George K. Sanderson, unattached, will proceed to Calvert, Texas, and report for duty with Company C, Eleventh U. S. Infantry, to which regiment he is, by direction of the President, hereby transferred.

Captain Frank W. Perry, brevet major, unattached, is hereby relieved from his present duties, and will proceed to Fort Duncan, Texas, and report for duty with Company K, Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, to which regiment he is, by direction of the President, hereby transferred.

Monday, December 20th.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with Section 26 of the act of Congress approved July 28, 1866, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Walter S. Franklin, captain, unattached, is hereby detailed as Professor of Military Science, at the Wisconsin State University, Madison, Wisconsin.

Private Joseph Junker, Company E, Eighth U. S. Infantry, having been appointed hospital steward U. S. A., by the Secretary of War, will report in person to the commanding general Fifth Military District, for assignment to duty.

Hospital Steward Joseph T. Brown, U. S. Army, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Hospital Steward C. H. Sewell, U. S. Army, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Leave of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for fifty days' extension, is hereby granted Captain S. M. Robbins, Seventh U. S. Cavalry.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon C. W. Knight, U. S. Army, has been ordered from Galveston, Texas, to Austin, Texas.



## ARMY PERSONAL.

FIRST Lieutenant Clinton J. Powers, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, was assigned to duty at the Headquarters Fifth Military District, Dec. 6th.

CHAPLAIN Elijah Guion, U. S. Army, (late Forty-first U. S. Infantry), has been relieved from duty at Fort McKavett, Texas, and ordered to Galveston, Texas.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel F. M. Crandal, captain Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, was relieved, Dec. 8th, as a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort McKavett, Texas.

FIRST Lieutenant John R. Bothwell, unassigned, was relieved, December 14th, from duty as acting assistant quartermaster at Fort Lyon, C. T., to enable him to comply with orders from Washington.

MAJOR John W. Todd, Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army, was relieved, December 6th, from duty as a member of the General Court-martial instituted by Special Orders No. 241, current series, from Headquarters Department of Louisiana.

BREVET First Lieutenant Bethel M. Custer, second lieutenant Twenty-fourth Infantry, has been authorized to remain at Fort McKavett, Texas, until he has made the final returns and completed the records of the late Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry.

FIRST Lieutenant Ogden B. Read, Eleventh U. S. Infantry, Jefferson, Texas, was ordered, Dec. 6th, to proceed immediately to Fort Monroe, Virginia, and report in person to Brevet Major-General W. F. Barry, colonel Second U. S. Artillery, commanding.

In addition to his duties as a member of a military commission in session at Jefferson, Texas, Brevet Captain Jacob Wagner, U. S. Army, First Lieutenant Tenth Infantry, has been ordered to perform those of post adjutant to Brevet Brigadier-General Buell, commanding post.

HOSPITAL Steward Harry Martin, U. S. Army, was relieved, Dec. 8th, from duty at Forts Jackson and St. Philip, La., and ordered to Ship Island, Miss., and Hospital Steward Peter B. Cullen, U. S. Army—awaiting assignment—ordered from Little Rock, Ark., to Forts Jackson and St. Philip, La.

ON account of the continued illness of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Simeon Smith, chief paymaster Department of Louisiana, Major Nicholas Vedder, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered, Dec. 9th, to perform the duties of chief paymaster of the department, also those of local paymaster, until further orders.

BREVET Brigadier-General Ralph W. Kirkham, lieutenant-colonel and deputy quartermaster-general U. S. Army, was ordered, Dec. 8th, to relieve Captain William B. Hughes, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, of so much of his duties as pertain to the charge of the depot of clothing, camp and garrison equipage in San Francisco.

BREVET Major William F. Spurgin, first lieutenant Fourth U. S. Infantry, was granted, Nov. 30th, twenty days' leave of absence, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District, and to apply to the War Department for an extension of twenty days, this order to take effect upon his departure from Galveston, Texas.

THE order directing Assistant Surgeon P. F. Harvey, U. S. Army, to proceed to Ship Island, Miss., and assume the duties of post surgeon at that place, is so amended as to direct him to proceed to Fort Pike, La., and report for temporary duty at that post, relieving Acting Assistant Surgeon Robert McCracken, U. S. Army, who will repair to New Orleans, and report to the Medical Director of Department of Louisiana.

UPON the return of Surgeon C. C. Byrne, U. S. Army, to the post of Little Rock, Ark., Assistant Surgeon E. A. Koerber, U. S. Army, will be relieved from duty as post surgeon of that station, and will proceed to Baton Rouge, La., reporting to the commanding officer for duty as post surgeon, to relieve Assistant Surgeon A. C. Girard, U. S. Army, in order to enable that officer to avail himself of leave of absence.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, to go beyond the limits of the Fourth Military District, with recommendation to the Headquarters of the Military Division of the South for an extension of thirty days, was, Dec. 13th, granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Fletcher, Jr., captain Sixteenth Infantry, to take effect upon the completion of the case now on trial before the General Court-martial of which he is a member.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending December 22, 1869: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Durys, captain First Artillery; Brevet Brigadier-General R. H. K. Whitely, colonel Ordnance Corps; Assistant Surgeon A. H. Gardner, U. S. Army; Assistant Surgeon C. S. Degraw, U. S. Army; Assistant Surgeon Harvey E. Brown, U. S. Army; Brevet Major James S. Casey, captain Fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant Joseph Hale, Third U. S. Infantry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of the Missouri, was granted, December 18th, to Brevet Major E. W. Tarlton, captain Third U. S. Cavalry, and leave of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply at Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, to First Lieutenant Edward Law, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, to take effect upon the return of Second Lieutenant T. J. March, Seventh Cavalry, to Fort Hays.

In compliance with telegraphic orders from Headquarters of the Army, adjutant-general's office, of the 10th instant, the following-named officers were relieved, Dec. 11th, from duty in the Fourth Military District, and ordered to proceed, without delay, to New York City, and report in person to Brevet Major-General J. V. D. Reeve, superintendent General Recruiting Service: Brevet Major C. J. von Hermann, captain U. S. Army; First

Lieutenant W. G. Fitch, U. S. Army, retired; First Lieutenant John P. Walker, U. S. Army; and the following to Cincinnati, Ohio, to report in person to Brevet Brigadier-General S. Burbank, superintendent General Recruiting Service: Brevet Major William Nelson, captain U. S. Army; First Lieutenant W. H. H. Crowell, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant John Pulford, U. S. Army.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of Louisiana, for the week ending December 11th: First Lieutenant John Harold, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George K. Spencer, Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant R. Vance, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant W. M. Bandy, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Captain J. B. Burbank, first lieutenant Third Artillery; Second Lieutenant J. C. Fortune, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Major-General James B. Fry, assistant adjutant general; Brevet Colonel J. McL. Taylor, commissary subsistence; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Robert N. Scott, captain U. S. Infantry; Brevet Captain Phineas Stevens, U. S. Army; Brevet Major Wm. F. Spurgin, first lieutenant Twenty-fourth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George H. Cook, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Chas. Jordan, Sixteenth Infantry.

## COURTS-MARTIAL.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to convene at the post of Baton Rouge, La., Monday Dec. 13, 1869. Detail for the court: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Barnard, captain Nineteenth Infantry; Captain J. H. Bradford, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Captain Mark Walker, first lieutenant Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant John Harold, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George H. Cook, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant William M. Bandy, Nineteenth Infantry. Second Lieutenant J. Campbell Fortune, Nineteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Jackson Miss., December 20th, instant. Detail for the court: Major W. P. Carlin (brevet major-general), Sixteenth Infantry; Major R. N. Batchelder (brevet colonel), quartermaster U. S. Army; Captain C. F. Trowbridge (brevet major), Second Infantry; Captain D. M. Vance (brevet major), Sixteenth Infantry; Captain T. E. Rose (brevet lieutenant-colonel) U. S. Army; Captain J. M. Hamilton, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant William Quinton, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant W. J. Dawes, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant J. S. Appleton, U. S. Army. Captain Jasper Myers, Ordnance Department, U. S. A., judge-advocate.

SECOND Lieutenant William F. Stewart, Fourth U. S. Artillery, has been tried on charges of disobedience of orders and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, in violation of the published rules of the U. S. Artillery School. He failed to notify his immediate commander that he was sick and unable to do duty, and, after causing himself to be reported sick by the post surgeon, failed to notify his immediate commander of the fact; and, when requested by his commander to explain why he failed to obey post orders, to which his attention had been lately called, he replied that he knew of no such circular, or words to that effect. The accused pleaded "not guilty." He was found not "guilty of the first charge, but guilty of the specification, and guilty of conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline. The sentence was "to forfeit his pay proper for three months, and to be confined within the limits of the fortifications of Fort Monroe, Va., during that period." The proceedings, findings and sentence are approved and confirmed by Brevet Major-General Canby. The sentence will be duly carried into effect.

BREVET Major David H. Kinzie, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Artillery, has been tried by Court-martial on charges of "Disobedience of orders," and "Conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline," in that, having been informed by First Sergeant Michael Fetters, of Battery C, which he commanded, that he had been directed by the sergeant-major of the post, to inform him that the commanding officer of the post (Brevet Major-General William F. Barry), had ordered that two enlisted men of the battery be excused from inspection the next morning, he said to the first sergeant that he would not recognize or obey any order transmitted in that way, and ordered First Sergeant Fetters not to excuse the men from inspection. Major Kinzie pleaded "Not guilty," but was found guilty of both charges and specifications, and sentenced, "To forfeit pay proper for one year; to be confined at Fort Monroe, Virginia, within the limits of the fortifications, during that period, attending to all duties of the Artillery School and post, and to be reprimanded in orders by the commanding officer of the First Military District." Brevet Major-General Canby approves the sentence, and orders its execution, adding: "The manner of communicating orders, brought in question by the proceedings in this case, is one that is fully established by long-continued custom, and is sanctioned by the Regulations (par. 443). It is the substitute in part for the 'officers call,' and works mainly to the convenience of company officers, by relieving them from the duty of reporting in person to receive the daily details and unimportant orders, and it has always been held to be customary, proper, and sufficient. It is to be regretted that Major Kinzie, should have adopted a course of action so much to the prejudice of the good order and discipline of his command, and to his professional reputation."

FIRST Lieutenant L. L. Mulford, Third U. S. Cavalry, has been tried before a court-martial at Santa Fe, N. M., on the charges of neglect of duty, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. The specifications are, having been detailed as a member of a board of survey for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon a deficiency in subsistence stores for which Lieutenant R. E. Whitman, Third U. S. Cavalry, was responsible, he failed to take an inventory of the property concerning which they were to report, and did not at-

tend in person at the commissary store-house during the time the inventory was being taken, which was used by them in their report, and yet signed the proceedings of the board containing the statement: "After a careful examination of all the circumstances connected with the deficiencies," Lieutenant Mulford pleaded not guilty. He was found guilty of the first charge, and not guilty of the second, and sentenced "to be suspended from rank and pay proper for four months, and confined to the limits of the military reservation of the post where his company may be serving during that period." Major-General Schofield, reviewing the case, approves the proceedings, findings and sentence; but, on the unanimous recommendation of the members of the court, based upon the inexperience of Lieutenant Mulford at the time, his desire and attempt to perform his duty correctly, from which he was deterred only by the opinions of the other members of the board and his commanding officer, remits the sentence. First Lieutenant Henry Ayers, Third U. S. Cavalry, tried on the same charges, was sentenced "to be suspended from rank and pay proper for four months, and confined to the limits of the military reservation of the post where his troop may be serving for the same period, and to be reprimanded in General Orders by the Department commander." In this case, Major-General Schofield approves, and orders the sentence to be duly executed, adding that he "deems the promulgation of the order a sufficient reprimand in this case. He hopes that this example will impress upon officers generally a higher sense of their duty to the Government in respect to responsibility for the proper care and preservation of public property; and upon boards of survey the necessity of performing their whole duty in determining questions of responsibility for the loss of such property."

## THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND.

THE Society of the Army of the Cumberland met at Indianapolis, Ind., on the 16th of December, and in the absence of the President, General Thomas, was presided over by the first Vice President, Lieutenant-General Sheridan, who was most enthusiastically received on taking the chair. When quiet was restored, General Sheridan said:

"COMRADES OF THE ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND: I congratulate you upon this, our third anniversary. It has not been my good fortune to be with you heretofore at the meetings of your Society, but I think you all know that I have greater love and affection for the Army of the Cumberland than for any other army; and, although not with you in person, I have been with you in heart and soul. It gratifies me much to see that such good feeling is manifested in your proceedings, for it was that which enabled us to stand by that old flag so gallantly. I suppose you all, as well as myself, regret the absence of our old commander, General Thomas. We all regret that he is not here to-day, that he might contribute by his presence to the pleasure of the meeting. Other duties have prevented him from coming. But while he is absent, we have here the commander under whom we first organized at Bowling Green, on whose banner was inscribed the name, 'Army of the Cumberland.' It is no use for me to describe the marches we made under his command. It is no use to describe the sanguinary conflicts we fought under his command, and it is not for me to attempt to describe the affection we have always felt toward him."

Loud and repeated calls were made all over the house for General Rosecrans, until he was led forward by General Kimball. He said: "I am not able to express the gratification felt in meeting you here to-day. My heart is so full that I will talk but little. Nothing would have given me more pleasure than to have been with you at former meetings; but circumstances prevented, and now it has been my good fortune to-day, gentlemen, to find myself with you, I render homage to that magnanimity which has made the Army of the Cumberland so conspicuous among the armies of the Union, and that which characterizes the Army of the Cumberland I find is exhibited by all the soldiers connected with it wherever I meet and speak with them. I earnestly congratulate you upon it, and I congratulate you the more, and feel proud of it, as I was one which went to make up the body of that Army of the Cumberland and of the Ohio. But, comrades, you must excuse me from trying to make a speech; and let me say that with all my heart I greet you, and whenever I meet a member of the Army of the Cumberland, whether he served in the ranks or has the star of a general, I shall greet him most cordially."

General Nathan Kimball, Chairman of the Executive Committee, called the meeting to order, and before yielding the chair to General Sheridan, made the opening address, in the course of which he said: "Comrades, without detaining you longer, I take much pleasure in presenting to you the gallant leader of the Army of the Shenandoah, General Sheridan, who will preside over the deliberations of the Society in the absence of—will you pardon me, commanders and comrades, if I say in the absence of one whose picture is before us [cheers], the greatest man, permit me to say, on God's footstool, in the Army of the United States of America. [Renewed and prolonged cheering]. I may be partial, but I love



this man. I honor and respect these men; but while I honor and venerate them, my heart's whole fountain of love goes out to old 'Pap Thomas.' [Renewed demonstrations of applause]. Generals Rosecrans, Wood, Schofield and Negley also spoke briefly in response to calls from the meeting.

The following letter from General Thomas was read:

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., November 26, 1869.

DEAR GENERAL: I have waited until to-day without answering your letter of the 2d instant, hoping that I might be able to inform you that I could be present at the approaching annual reunion of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland. Much as I regret that I shall not be able to shake you all by the hand on the 15th of December next, I shall be compelled to forego the pleasure. Indianapolis is so far from San Francisco, and there being apprehensions of Indian outbreaks in this region, I do not think it prudent to leave my command for as long a time as will be required to go to Indianapolis and return. I appreciate fully the friendly sentiments of your letter, which are all the more acceptable from the fact that similar sentiments come to me from many quarters.

It was my hearty desire, from the beginning to the end of the late war, to accept with cheerfulness, and perform with zeal and honesty whatever duties devolved upon me. At the same time it was my constant endeavor to impress those who were with me and under my command with a sense of the importance of the labors they had undertaken to perform. This, I am happy to say, was an easy task. The Army of the Cumberland, from the highest officers to the privates in the ranks, was distinguished throughout the war for subordination, unity and concert of action within itself, as well as for the cheerfulness with which it united its designs and divided the hardships of service at all times with whatever troops it came in contact with in the service, entertaining no jealousies, but with a lively sentiment of friendship and esteem for all engaged in the defence of the Government.

Although I shall not be able to be with you in person my heart will rejoice with you in the happy reunion which I know you will have. I am very truly your friend, GEORGE H. THOMAS, Major-General, U. S. A.

Letters were also read from Secretaries Belknap and Robeson, Admirals Farragut and Porter, Generals Cox, Meade, Hooker, Hancock, Reynolds, McClellan, Pope, Dodge, Fairchild, Wilson, Logan, Garfield, and others, expressing their regret at not being able to attend the meeting. The letter from General Thomas was acknowledged by General Sheridan in a telegraphic dispatch expressing the regret of the Society at the unavoidable absence of their honored President.

The usual routine business was transacted by the Society. The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$2,600 on hand, and a resolution was adopted to invest this in Government bonds. Cleveland was chosen as the next place of meeting by a large majority, the meeting to be held September 24th and 25th. The Committee on Memorials reported the death of the following members of the Society during the past year: General Ketchum, of Illinois; General Raymond, of Illinois; General Wagner, of Indiana; and Captain Hannon, of Ohio. The Committee to nominate officers for the next year reported the following, who were unanimously elected:

President—Major-General George H. Thomas, U. S. Army.

Vice-Presidents—Lieutenant-General P. H. Sheridan, U. S. Army; General Rosecrans, Major-General J. M. Schofield, U. S. Army; Generals Negley, Brannan, Price, Little, Kimball, Doolittle, Opdyke, Lane, Mindel and Colonel Conover.

Treasurer—General Fullerton.

Recording Secretary—General Waterman.

Corresponding Secretary—General Cist.

The Committee on Orator for the next anniversary reported in favor of Governor Palmer, of Illinois, with General Garfield as alternate. The report was adopted.

General Willich submitted the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted:

Whereas, The present history and some of the official records of the late war contain many errors, etc.; that such history and records, truthfully kept, are the best means to produce and preserve patriotism and a high sense of the nation's honor; and

Whereas, The number of those who participated in the struggle for the nation's life is daily becoming less, and their testimony will be lost; therefore

Resolved, That the members of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland do petition Congress to establish a board of Trustees of the War Record, composed of the historiographer of the country, the loyal governors, and other leading statesmen, whose duty it shall be to examine into these records and correct all errors and contradictions, and who shall have the power to summon all necessary witnesses in order to carry out this object.

A resolution of sympathy with the Cuban Revolutionists was laid on the table.

In the afternoon the annual address was delivered by General Negley. After the address the Chairman read telegrams received from the President of the United States, and General Sherman. Speeches were then made by General Willich, Chaplain Moody and others, and the President announced the reunion meeting adjourned.

At the banquet held on Thursday evening, Gen. Rosecrans, in response to a toast, proceeded to relate how he was designated to the command of the Army of the Cumberland over his seniors in rank, and how the question of rank was adjusted. He felt a diffidence about assuming the command of so great and important an army, and over so many officers who were his previous seniors in the service. General Thomas was his friend, and had received his recom-

mendations for previous posts of honor. He said to General Thomas, "You are my senior in years, in service, and in merit. I need the co-operation of every member of the Army, especially of its best men. I have not sought this command, and desire and need your aid, and will give you any command you want in this Army, whether of one of its three divisions, or the place of second in command." General Thomas, in reply, remarked that he had the greatest confidence and esteem for me, but he always disliked to violate the regular system of promotion by seniority. After he had declined the Army of the Ohio, he had thought of service in Texas, but, under all the circumstances, he could not decline to serve with me. He asked me the date of my commission, and I told him I believed that my commission had been antedated to the 21st of March. I never knew, never inquired as to why it had been antedated. General Thomas said that that ended his last objection; that my commission was older than his. He said he was tired of being second in command, and it amounted simply to being nobody. So I divided the Army, and gave him, as is well known, command of the centre. This was how General Thomas came to be associated with us in the Army of the Cumberland.

The next piece of history was when I left the Army without taking leave or shaking hands. General Garfield came to me and said he wanted to talk with me about one thing that General Thomas would have spoken of himself, but he felt great delicacy. Garfield said that there were rumors that I was to be relieved, and General Thomas appointed to the command. If that were done, he (Thomas) should think it a great injustice to the Army and to the country, and would not take the command unless he were compelled to by duty. I told Garfield to say to Thomas that I had the greatest confidence in his honor and sense of justice, and that, whatever might happen, he would have no apprehension of misunderstanding between him and myself. It was known to all the corps commanders that, when we took charge of Chattanooga, I was determined to do all in my power to move Bragg's hosts. I ordered the pontoons to be constructed as speedily as possible, to cross the river to take possession of Lookout Valley. This was known to my young friend, Phil Sheridan. (General Sheridan here interrupted and said he had ridden to the river with Rosecrans to make the arrangements to cross over on the 19th of October.)

In company with Baldy Smith, who had been sent as chief engineer of the Army, I examined the points to cross the river, and upon my return in the evening I found a telegram announcing my relief, and the appointment of General Thomas as my successor. I sent a note to Thomas and to Granger, to call at my headquarters at 10 o'clock P. M. When he came I had the necessary orders prepared, and laid on my table. I laid them before Thomas for him to read. He read them with great embarrassment, and began to turn pale. I told him to say nothing. I knew what he would say, for Garfield had told me. I assured him that nothing could come between him and myself. I told him, "You can't desert this post. What you have to do is, to do it. All will be right between you and me."

General Thomas replied that he didn't like it. The chiefs were sent for, and I had reports made of how affairs stood in each department of the Army. We discussed the condition of things, and then the orders were written—mine taking leave, and his assuming command. When we had done this, and the orders were sent to the adjutant-general's office, I told Thomas that this change would probably have a bad effect on the Army and the country, and that the less fuss made the better. I have put you in possession of all my plans; you have always been in my confidence, and you know all. I always thought that the second in command should be made aware of the plans of the commander, so that in case of death by accident they might be carried out without interruption.

I told Thomas if he thought necessary I would stay, but it was against my judgment. He replied that he would like to have me stay, but he believed my judgment was sound. After this was all done, and when the orders were all dispatched, Thomas said: "General, I would like to have you explain fully the plan to take Wauhatchie." I went over the details of the plan, when, where and how to cross the river; how to take Lookout Valley, and then capture Wauhatchie. This over, we separated, and at 7 o'clock the next day I boarded the train and left the Army of the Cumberland; and until to-night I have never met my comrades, except as ship meets ship on the ocean—merely to pass them in the great campaign. God bless you and make you as happy and prosperous as you deserve.

General Rosecrans made a little addendum to his statement. He said: "Straws show which way the wind blows." A very little thing tells the difference between a true soldier and a bogus one. The plans were carried out; Lookout Valley was taken and Wauhatchie captured. General Thomas, in his report, commenced it by saying, "According to the plans of" so and so, "I captured Wauhatchie," etc. That shows what a white man he is. This is a plain story of how General Thomas came to be your commander, and how I came to leave you.

General Rosecrans's explanation was received with tremendous applause, and renewed demonstrations of affection and confidence. General Sheridan and General Granger corroborated the narrative in every particular, General Granger saying that he had Rosecrans's plans for taking Wauhatchie in writing, which plans were carried out to the letter.

#### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Companies K, Sixteenth Infantry, from Grenada, Miss., to Corinth, Miss., November 21st.  
Companies D and G, Eighteenth Infantry, from Warrenton, Ga., to Atlanta, Ga., December 1st.  
Company G, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from Jackson Barracks, La., to Fort Jackson, La., December 4th. Ordered.  
No changes in cavalry or artillery.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

#### VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE U. S. storeship *Supply* has received her full complement of men, and will probably sail from Boston this week. The steamers *Alaska* and *Terror* are also fully equipped and will proceed to sea within a few days.

THE U. S. revenue-cutter *Lincoln* arrived at San Francisco on the 19th inst., bringing advices from Alaska and Sitka to December 5th. Everything was quiet in the territory, the only want felt by the inhabitants being that of a civil government.

THE U. S. steamer *Benicia*, Commander Somerville Nicholson, which left the Portsmouth, N. H., Navy-yard December 14th, on a trial trip, arrived at New York on the 17th inst. Her officers report that she acted admirably throughout the trip.

THE U. S. frigate *Albany* returned to New York on the 19th from the Bay of Samana with the Commissioners who has negotiated a lease of the Navy of Samana on board. The *Albany* encountered a storm on her return, carrying away her foretopmast, and damaging her bowsprit.

LAST week the House Naval Committee passed a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy for the report of the Board organized during November, to settle the difference between the line and the staff officers of the Navy in regard to rank. The Secretary has not yet replied to the resolution.

THE *Severn*, of the North Atlantic Squadron, arrived off Tybee Bay, Savannah, on the 19th inst., with the officers and crew of the Cuban privateer *Lillian*, who were captured by the British authorities and released. They were brought from Nassau, N. P., by the U. S. steamer *Pouhatan*, to Key West, and there transferred to the *Severn*.

THE U. S. steamer *Pouhatan* arrived at Philadelphia, December 20th, from a five years' cruise, and anchored off the Navy-yard. In passing Cape Hatteras the *Pouhatan* was caught in a heavy gale, and had one of her boats carried away. Her starboard engine also broke down during the gale. She will be thoroughly overhauled at Philadelphia.

THE U. S. steamship *Nantasket* is now the station ship for the Bay of Samana, Island of St. Domingo, which the Government has leased for a naval station. It is thought that the United States sailing sloop-of-war *Saratoga* will, when fitted out, be sent to that port to be a fixed station ship, and will serve as a temporary storeship there until a suitable vessel is sent out to relieve her.

THE U. S. steamship *Tallapoosa*, Commander R. Chandler commanding, arrived at 7 P. M., at the Norfolk Navy-yard, December 10th, from New York, with stores for the different departments, and left the yard December 11th, at 3:30 P. M., for Annapolis, Md. The wreck of the U. S. steamship *Raritan* was successfully raised on the 8th inst., and will be placed in the dry-dock; she is now lying on Pointexter's Point, opposite this yard. December 14th the U. S. coast survey steamer *Bibb* came out of dry-dock at 4 P. M., and the U. S. tugs *Mayflower* and *Snowdrop* were docked at 4:20 P. M.

THE Secretary of the Navy has received a dispatch from London, announcing that the British man-of-war *Monarch*, with the remains of the late George Peabody on board, would leave there for the United States. Her departure would have been earlier, but was delayed on account of recent heavy storms. The steamer *Plymouth* accompanies the *Monarch* as her consort. The vessels will arrive at Portland, Me., as it is the only harbor in which the *Monarch* can safely land, owing to her heavy draft.

A BILL introduced by Mr. Kellogg is now before Congress, which proposes to authorize the President of the United States to select and purchase a site for a Navy yard and depot near the mouth of the Mississippi River, at or near New Orleans, and erect such buildings, and make such improvements thereon as may be judged necessary for the accommodation and supply of the United States vessels of war in that quarter, and to appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars for effecting this object.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER Thomas O. Selfridge, commanding the newly fitted-out U. S. steamship *Nipsic*, writes the Secretary from Annapolis, Md., that he has just completed the trial trip of the *Nipsic*, and that the result was highly gratifying. He says she has proved herself to be a stiff ship, carrying her canvas with perfect ease. Under royals, against a heavy head sea, she made six and seven knots; on a windward, with the wind free, nine knots. She is fitted with a patent steering apparatus, and is steered easily by one man. The two-blade screw he recommends as superior and preferable to the four-blade screw.

THE Asiatic squadron is to be reenforced by the *Colorado*, 42, as flagship to relieve the *Piscataqua*; *Benicia*, 8, and *Alaska*, 8. The *Colorado* is now being completed at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and will be ready to sail about the 1st of February. The *Benicia* is now in the harbor receiving her final preparations. The *Alaska* is an addition to this fleet, which is to be reduced by the sale of three of the vessels, the *Ashuelot*, 6, *Unadilla*, 1, and *Maumee*, 1, which, after survey, are pronounced unseaworthy, unfit for cruising, except in rivers, and unsafe to be sent home. When they shall have become no longer fit for use as war vessels, their armaments and stores will be sent home, and the vessels sold. The *Arctostook* has already been sold.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER A. Hopkins, of the Navy, having been ordered to San Francisco, on his arrival found the ship he was to command had already sailed for Alaska. He followed, taking passage in a merchant



ship bound for Victoria, Vancouver's Island. On the 11th of November, the naval officer warned the captain of the ship of foul weather coming on, and wanted him to prepare for it; but the master did not heed it, and the first squall that struck them, away went all the sails. In the most fearful part of the storm the captain seemed to have lost his wits, and as the two were standing together the naval officer could not refrain from yelling an order, which the men obeying, it was concluded by all who knew anything about it to have saved the ship.

THE *Advertiser*, Honolulu, of November 20th, says: Admiral Turner and Captain Franklin invited a number of ladies and gentlemen on board the *Mohican*, on Wednesday last, to witness the crew engage in target practice. The target was placed on the reef to leeward of the port, and the shots fired, though very accurate, failed to hit it. Had a vessel been there instead of the target, every shot would probably have struck her. The *Mohican* was engaged in active service several times during the late war, the most conspicuous engagement having been at Fort Fisher, where the vessel was so riddled by the Confederate balls that she had to be nearly rebuilt. We noticed three Hawaiians among her crew, who were in the Navy also during the late war, and are ambitious to learn the art of naval warfare, so as to be prepared to help man the Hawaiian fleet, should we ever decide to indulge our national vanity in the luxury of ships-of-war. Since the fate of the brig *Kamehameha*, which the French ran off with in 1849, we have learned that "discretion is the better part of valor."

#### CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

CAPTAIN Daniel Ammen, to be the Chief of the Bureau Yards and Docks; Commodore Augustus L. Case, to be Chief of Bureau Ordnance; Paymaster Edward T. Dunn, to be Chief of Bureau of Provisions and Clothing; Surgeon William Maxwell Wood, to be Chief of Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Paymasters on the Active List—Robert B. Rodney and James S. Giraud.

Passed Assistant Paymasters—Frank Bissell, A. T. Standcliff, Aaron H. Nelson and George F. Bemis.

Assistant Paymasters—R. P. Paulding, Stephen Rand, John Breese, L. G. Boggs, S. R. Colhoun, J. T. Addicks, L. A. Jocke, C. N. Saunders, William M. Preston, W. T. Stevenson, C. H. Bartlett and N. H. Slovey.

Surgeons—Thomas Hiland, E. R. Dodge, D. R. Bonnan and C. H. White.

Assistant Surgeons—A. F. Owen and J. L. Liggett.

Chaplains—M. O. Brittain, J. R. Matthews, W. R. Cobb and J. K. Lewis.

The following to be on the active list of the Navy: David McDougall, to be commodore; C. H. Baldwin, captain; William H. Dana, commander; Edward E. Potter, commander; Charles A. Babcock, commander, and Lester A. Beardslee, commander.

Lieutenant-Commanders—W. M. Folger, Benjamin P. Lamberton, John Schouler, Francis W. Dickins, G. F. Wilde, Charles F. Davis, Jr., Charles J. Train, Edward White, Oscar F. Hycomah and George W. Sigman.

Ensign—Charles Seymour.

The following confirmations in the marines: James Lewis to be major, William B. McKean captain. To be first lieutenants, William B. Murray, George C. Reid, Erastus R. Robinson, Francis H. Harrington. To be second lieutenants, Richard Wallack, Wm. H. Slack, Samuel H. Gibson, Benjamin R. Russel, Robert Wainwright and Stephen Quackenbush.

The above were in places of those retired, deceased, resigned or promoted, on the 21st inst.

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

##### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

###### ORDERED.

DECEMBER 15.—Commander George U. Morris, to the Navy-yard, Pensacola, Fla.

DECEMBER 16.—First Assistant Engineer George D. Emmons, to duty at the Navy-yard, Washington, D. C.

DECEMBER 17.—Surgeon A. S. Oberly, to the Portsmouth.

DECEMBER 20.—Lieutenant Charles H. Rockwell, and Master Wm. H. Mayer, Jr., to the receiving ship *Vandavia*, on the 5th of January next.

Boatswain Wm. S. Bond, to the Alaska.

###### DETACHED.

DECEMBER 17.—Surgeon P. S. Wales, from the Portsmouth, and ordered home.

Surgeon D. R. Bannan, from the Naval Station, Mount City, Ill., and ordered to the Naval Hospital, Pensacola.

DECEMBER 20.—Second Assistant Engineer M. N. Knowlton, from the *Frolic*, and placed on waiting orders.

Second Assistant Engineer Joseph H. Thomas, from the *Terror* and ordered to the *Frolic*.

##### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending December 18, 1869:

James Prince, seaman, November 21st, sick quarters, Mare Island, Cal.

John Rudenstein, surgeon, December 9th, Naval Hospital, Pensacola.

##### LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

###### DECEMBER 16TH.

Almy, R. B., Captain.  
Brown, J. R., Major.  
Epperson, B. H., Colonel.  
Harper, G. B., Captain.  
Jones, James, Captain.  
Keyes, H., Colonel—2.

Lewis, C. H., Colonel.  
Mancoos, P. F., Colonel.  
Morse, Captain.  
McCarthy, J., Captain.  
O'Brien, T., Colonel.  
Warrig, G. E., Colonel.

###### DECEMBER 20TH.

Adams, W. A., General.  
Babbitt, E. H., Captain.  
Bacon, A. P., Captain.  
Brewerton, Geo. D., Colonel.  
Benson, C., Captain.  
Brown, T. L., Colonel.  
Clark, W., Captain.  
Cobb, Samuel, Captain.  
Cushing, Volney, Captain—2.  
Deming, Geo. K., Captain.  
Dyran, R. M., Captain.

Goff, D., Captain.  
Hillyer, Colonel.  
Johnson, Captain.  
Karples, Henry, Colonel.  
Kelley, T. J., Colonel.  
Knox, G., Captain.  
McFarland, Abiel, Captain.  
Sherrard, T. L., Captain.  
Tower, Law, Captain.  
Williams, Wm., Captain.  
Wilson, J., Captain.

#### CONGRESS.

SENATOR WILSON, of Massachusetts, has introduced a bill into the Senate providing for the disposal of the supernumerary officers. It is entitled "A bill to provide for the reduction of the officers of the Army of the United States," and is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to honorably discharge from the service of the United States any officer of the infantry arm who may apply therefor under the provisions of this act; *Provided, however,* That no greater number of officers shall be discharged under the provisions of this act than will reduce the number in service to the actual requirements of the twenty-five infantry regiments as authorized by law.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That officers discharged under the provisions of this act shall be entitled to receive, in addition to the pay and allowances due them at the date of their discharge, as follows: Officers who have served more than ten years, two years' pay and allowances; officers who have served more than five and less than ten years, one and a half years' pay and allowances; officers who have served less than five years, one year's pay and allowances.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That if the provisions of the first section of this act shall fail to produce a reduction of the number of officers to the requirements of the twenty-five regiments of infantry as authorized by law, within six months from the passage of this act, the Secretary of War is authorized to muster out of service the supernumerary officers, under the terms provided in section two of this act.

If it is determined that supernumerary officers must be mustered out, this bill is indicative of a liberal disposition toward the Army, of which Senator Wilson has given other evidences. It will, at least, lessen the hardships of a summary muster out, and do something to secure the means of subsistence for officers and their families while they are seeking to establish themselves in civil life. The bill is open, in any case, to the important objection that it throws all the burden and hardship of the reduction upon one arm of the service, the infantry. Every officer in the other branches of the Army is to be retained, while some five hundred infantry officers are to be discharged.

Mr. Wilson also offered a noteworthy resolution, instructing the Committee on Military Affairs, to consider the expediency of adding two to the number of lieutenant-generals, and reducing the number of major-generals from five to three. He explained that his object was to do justice to two eminent generals—Thomas and Meade—whose great services to the country were universally recognized, the latter having gained at Gettysburg the decisive battle of the war.

Mr. Thayer offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the attorney-general to furnish a copy of any opinion delivered by him relative to our National Cemeteries in the late rebellious States, and upon the question whether it is necessary to obtain the consent of the Legislatures of States in which such cemeteries are located for their permanent continuance therein. The House resolution relating to the erection of an equestrian statue in bronze of General Grant, was referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

The Secretary of the Navy has addressed to the House a letter, containing also a communication from the chief of the Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting, asking for authority to enlist 1,500 men, in addition to the 8,500 now allowed by law. Secretary Robeson explains that the number of seamen is now smaller than was allowed before the war, and the apprentice system has to be abandoned for a time, until Congress will allow the proper number of men. The communication enclosed says that there are at present 7,900 enlisted persons employed in the naval service, leaving but six hundred men to bring the force up to the maximum allowed by law. These six hundred men are immediately required to fill the accrued deficiencies in the complements of the crews of vessels in commission on the North Atlantic coast, thus leaving the bureau without any men for the vessels ordered to relieve those whose cruises are about to terminate on foreign stations.

Among the bills and resolutions introduced in the House, are those to provide for payment of bounty to soldiers discharged by reason of sickness contracted in the line of duty; to amend section 6 of the act of July 27, 1868, relating to pensions, so as to extend the time from five years to 10 years, in which applications for pensions may be filed in the proper department; directing the Secretary of the Navy to furnish a full and complete copy of the report of the Board of Admirals convened in 1865, of which Admiral Farragut was President (adopted); to provide for furnishing, at the expense of the Government, artificial limbs and other supports to honorably-discharged officers and soldiers and marines, whenever needed during life, on account of wounds received or sickness incurred in the military or marine service of the United States; permitting army and navy officers on the retired list to hold civil offices.

ONE of the marble statues, that of Major-General Nathaniel Green, which the State of Rhode Island is to furnish for the old hall of House of Representatives in Washington, is completed, and now on the way from Italy.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should invariably be addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

#### SHALL WE SURRENDER OUR FORTS TO THE NAVY?

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: While inland cities must still depend upon forts for protection, the modern improvements in artillery, and the invention of armored ships have introduced new elements into the problem of defending our sea-coast cities by land fortifications; and the question naturally arises whether we shall not be compelled to abandon all attempts at such defence and rely upon armored ships—to repel armored ships—in other words to entrust our seaboard defence to the Navy? Each service claims the duty; and, as every harbor consists both of land and water, with apparently equal claims, the decision of the question depends upon which service can afford the most perfect defence, and in some measure upon the expense of such defence. I propose to offer to your readers a few remarks upon this question in relation to the new system of fortification lately advanced by myself.

To destroy an armored ship, rivets must be loosened, and iron plates and backing crushed by successive heavy blows. All this requires time. It is not sufficient that the fort shall be in itself impregnable; and, that its fires cannot be silenced, it must be able to destroy an enemy's fleet while in the act of passing it. This no fort yet built can do unaided. Hence, at first blush, we seem driven to the use of floating batteries, which, by their ability to change position, can keep the enemy under fire by following him until he is destroyed. To see if this conclusion is warranted let us suppose a case.

Imagine New York, defended by one or more armored floating batteries, to be attacked by a fleet of twenty iron-clad ships, led by such a seaman as Nelson or Cochrane. This fleet is, of course, met at the mouth of the harbor. It is difficult to conceive how a battery can prevent iron-clad ships from passing her, unless, like Apollon in "The Pilgrim's Progress," she straddles over the whole breadth of the way, barring the passage by her actual presence. While part of the enemy's fleet engage the batteries, the remainder dash by, range along the wharfs, destroy or capture the shipping—perhaps fire the city itself. Our batteries, of course, could not prevent this. The conclusion is inevitable. Batteries and fleet would drive into the harbor pell-mell, fighting as they went, where a long and doubtful contest would ensue. But, what effect would such a contest have on New York, even if our batteries were eventually successful? It would be like the battle in the old legend between the demon who had taken possession of the farmer's house and the amiable giant who undertook to dispossess him. The giant gained the victory; but the house was knocked to pieces in the conflict—"And what more," quaintly asks the legend, "could the demon have done?"

The point which I wish to establish is that, with floating batteries alone, the final battle must take place in the harbor itself. The case is not altered by the recent invention of torpedo-boats. The enemy can use them as well as we. We cannot trust the safety of our seaports to the chances of an equal combat between any description of ships.

Now, this will never do. The enemy's fleet must not enter the harbor at all; and, since neither forts alone, nor floating batteries alone, can prevent it, let us examine what additional assistance can be called in, and with which of these two species of defence it will be of the most avail.

Only two methods of auxiliary defence are worthy of notice. One consists in blocking the channel by obstructions, leaving a passage for the ingress and egress of our own ships, capable of being closed in case of attack by temporary means, which passage it would be difficult for the enemy to ascertain with sufficient accuracy to pilot in their fleet. A moment's reflection shows us that, in this case, floating batteries would be needless. Forts fulfil all the requirements of a complete defence.

The other method is by torpedoes. Here two reflections strike us at once.

1. If floating batteries be used, in the rush of the two fighting bodies, and in the smoke and confusion, we could not fire our torpedoes lest we destroy our own batteries. The batteries, therefore, are in the way and become an obstruction to defence.

2. To fire our torpedoes we must have the ends of the wires on land; and, to protect these wires, otherwise too much exposed to land attacks from the enemy, they must be placed in security. This security can only be furnished by a fort of some description.

Forts, then, are necessary in any case. Obstructions and torpedoes will detain the enemy under their guns for a time amply sufficient to insure their destruction or repulse, while their superior invulnerability and heavier fire over ships of any kind deny the enemy a contest on equal terms, and leave nothing to the chances of battle. As would be the case in a naval engagement waged by means of floating batteries. We allude here only to forts built on the plan of our own system. Since, then, we must have forts, floating batteries, it is evident, are a needless addition, both from their inferiority and their expense.

I endeavored to show, in my essay, that all forts, whether intended for sea-coast or inland defence, must depend in some measure upon mines for protection, and pointed out that a torpedo was only a peculiar species of mine. It is not my intention to discuss this question at length, but simply to attempt to show a few of the advantages offered by my system to the defence by means of forts and torpedoes united.

The impregnable nature of my sunken forts, and the impossibility of silencing their fire have already been shown. If the enemy attempt, by boats or small vessels, to remove our torpedoes, they can be sunk. If he



attempt to cover his operations by bringing in his armored fleet, what more can be desired?

If my forts are what they claim to be, they cannot fail to destroy or repulse him. Their complete invulnerability and superiority of fire ensure this. It is pre-supposed that no fleet would dare to dash up a channel filled with torpedoes. If it did, so much the better for us. Admiral Farragut is reported to have said that, in his attack on Mobile Bay, he heard the wires of the enemy's torpedoes crackling under his keel. This certainly shows the daring and good fortune of our Admiral; but it also shows that the rebels should have had torpedoes, and not wires, under his keel.

To meet the attack of such a fleet, the Navy, undoubtedly, would be of the greatest efficacy; but not in the way of harbor defence. Let seagoing iron-clads be entrusted to their charge to meet the enemy outside on the ocean. Such a contest on equal terms may be left without fear to their known skill and courage. But the defence of our cities is different. No chance of success should be left the enemy. Access to them must be barred finally and absolutely, not left, as I said before, to the result of a doubtful conflict, doubly doubtful when we reflect how often in war fortune foils the efforts of the best and bravest.

In the report of our Corps of Engineers, lately submitted by our distinguished commander-in-chief, the principle on which my system is founded seems to be recognized in the recommendation that Fort Winthrop be taken as a model for our future forts. I have often examined Fort Winthrop, and may describe it as a sunken fort with a single tier of guns mounted *en barbette*. A fort on my own system, built on its present site, beside possessing other advantages over it, would be superior in these two respects:

Fort Winthrop shows but one tier of guns, my own shows tier behind tier to the full extent of the ground enclosed by the fortification.

Fort Winthrop affords no protection against a vertical fire, mine affords an almost perfect protection against such a fire. Further comment seems unnecessary. Even a civilian can judge which is the better fort.

It is recommended in the same report that casemates, with all their well-known advantages, be abandoned, from their inability to resist a direct fire. This is reason enough to abandon them. I call attention to the fact that each of my wells is a casemate, which can hardly be touched by a direct fire.

In regard to the parapets of earth recommended for my future forts, I respectfully submit the two following questions:

Can the angle offered to a direct fire by a raised parapet of earth compare in efficiency with the angle made to such fire by the surface of the earth used as I propose?

Can such a parapet compare in solidity, thickness, and power of resistance, with the earth itself used as a parapet according to my system?

I now leave this subject finally, having, as it seems to me, exhausted it. I hope I have not equally exhausted the patience of my readers.

GEO. E. HEAD,  
Captain and brevet major U. S. Army.

#### DECLINED WITH THANKS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: When we read those ominous words in the report of General Sherman, which indicate his desire that any further reduction should not fall on that honored corps—the foot—we felt a curious sensation, for we happen to be very low down and not in the foot.

The possibility that Congress would be so blind as to deprive the service and the country of our talents as a warrior, and not only consent to, but approve of, our hanging up "our bruised arms for monuments," and donning the civil toga—this thought broke upon us. We surveyed our mammoth allowance of quarters, furnished with that lavish extravagance of which the Government is guilty in giving us one pine table, and two chairs. Must we indeed leave all this?

We mechanically scribbled our name unadorned by its title, and found it didn't sound half as well.

We silently wondered what certain once-obsequious tradesmen would say when they could not reach us even through the medium of the Adjutant-General's office, and whether in the retirement of civil life as many of those dainty epistles would reach us as in the past.

We put to ourselves the question as to what branch of life we would conclude to ornament when we had forever sheathed our sabre, and hung it up for posterity to admire. What we would do in the coming years when Mars should not be the reigning planet of our sphere. To what height we might attain when mastered by necessity, that forcing-house of genius. We estimated what particular profession could be soonest attained by our knowledge of logistics; or what vocation we could enter, secure in the ability to retain as text-books those genial works of Benton, Mahan, Gibbon, Jomini, Mallet, Holly, and Upton. Certainly none of them are quoted in Wall street as authorities, and in saying this we mean to pay them the highest possible compliment. One might get a position on the Metropolitan Police force, but a man must have a physique like a grenadier to attain that.

Perhaps the capacity to manage a "four-in-hand" might enable us to procure a situation as the Jehu of a Third Avenue car or a Broadway stage.

Having once belonged to an amateur dramatic association might lead us to base hopes on an employment as walking gentleman at Booth's; but we forget that the Government will already have assigned us a parton life's stage by making us a supernumerary.

A hotel clerkship wouldn't be bad if we had the dignity to support the position, which includes the ability to snub every guest who asks you a civil question; to give rheumatic old gentlemen a room in the seventh story when the elevator is out of order; and to steal enough of the unholy gains of the establishment to justify a display of Australian diamonds, and oriole jewelry. We have always had dreams of rural felicity; new-mown hay, lowing herds, country lasses, and all that sort of thing.

We might try for the position of "son-in-law in some respectable country family."

Not having in our countenance a sufficient amount of that well-known alloy of one hundred parts copper and ten of tin, we have no grounds for expecting to reach the dazzling summit of a railroad conductor's existence. We have never studied navigation, and don't like too much excitement, so we shouldn't seek a billet as captain of a canal boat.

A constituency grateful for our return to their midst, might insist on our (mis)-representing them in Congress, but it would hardly do to rely upon such an amount of wisdom on their part.

We might settle down to theology but for the fear that Congress, in its frantic zeal against the Army, might reduce the clergy on the ground that the church is militant.

Of course it would be folly to attempt the practice of medicine, when our knowledge of that pleasing science is limited to the ability to whistle sick-call; or to aspire to law, when we confess to only a slight acquaintance with Blackstone, and a mere introduction to Kent. We might, like Fred. Power, in "Charley O'Malley," in the midst of our eloquent harangue in the matter of our first brief, discover that, although retained as the defendant's counsel, we were arguing for the plaintiff.

Our casual knowledge of the mysteries of red tape might enable us to become one of that unfortunate class of beings, the knights of the scissors and yard-stick.

Our thoroughly-learned practice in making toddies, for the commandant might secure us our credentials as a bar-keeper; but the habit of always making an additional toddy for ourselves might ruin the profits of the concern.

Our converseance with the mechanism of the double step, might avail us in the position of runner for some extensive mercantile house.

After all, we prefer to be let alone. We prefer not to learn by heart that motto about the baseness and the ingratitude of Republics.

December 12, 1869.

CAIUS.

#### THE HUMORS OF OUTPOST.

A RELIC OF OLD FORT BRIDGER, BY A. TRACY, U. S. A.

SUBALTERN officers present with the original expedition to Utah in 1857-8, will not forget the old outpost with its surroundings, below the Fifth Infantry camp, and near the point where were slaughtered such of our cattle as "could stand up to be knocked down," after the freezing and starvation, on the return march from Hams's Fork. The following was composed mainly upon the ground referred to, having lain intact to this day:

In so far's I've taken look  
In the regulation book,  
I admit  
There's little goes to show  
If a man may rhyme or no  
With the fit.

But so jolly here is "post,"  
So inspiring with its host  
Of delights,  
That one does the benefit  
Of the doubt—though broke for it—  
And indites.

Maybe, too, you ask what 'tis  
Taking tour like unto this  
Hereaway,  
'Mid the willows and the snow  
Of this breezy bottom low,  
For your day.

Spot, indeed, your elder quit—  
Seeing you'd him relieved of it  
With a haste  
That bade you marvel quite,  
If the saw were haply right  
Touching "taste."

Hither turning, then, my tent,  
Dusk and old, above me bent,  
Mark elate;  
Its walls of smoky brown,  
Shading blankets spread down  
For my state.

Loose and shaky with the blast,  
All its canvas, and a cast  
Own the poles;  
While beneath, if I may state,  
Rather over-ventilate,  
Certain holes.

Stones of cobble, centered round  
In a horseshoe on the ground,  
Keep my fire;  
And a flue of hide let through  
The roof, the smoke doth woo  
To aspire

Hide of bullock—'tis hair to;  
Warped and shrunk, and all askew  
With the heat,  
But hide for show of tails  
Pending inward—stiff as flails—  
Hard to beat.

Said smoke, too, I should say,  
Hints declining of the way  
Into air,  
Settles oft to fling its curls  
Round you, soft as any girl's,  
Till you—swear.

Bottle—empty—labelled "Schnapps,"  
Hinting here what things, perhaps,  
Once befel.  
Sprouts for fuel, stone for seat,  
And you have the list complete—  
Movable.

In adornment, graceless chaps,  
Give in charcoal, on the flaps,  
Nigh the tie.  
Dancing downward, all so free,  
From his merry gallows-tree,  
Brigham Y.

An owl above his head,  
Seems to brood of greatness sped;  
While beneath  
Widows rave, and all arow,  
The bearded elders show  
Savage teeth.

Streams in parallels of blue  
The slanted sunlight through  
Rent and seam,  
But a dubious sort of "saint"  
Is that bedappled quaint  
With its beam.

All day abiding here,  
Comes the tread upon your ear,  
To and fro,  
Of the sentry on his beat,  
With the crust beneath his feet,  
Crunching low.

Stepping forth, too, with me now,  
'Neath his nose of blue, I throw,  
You remark  
Frosted white the soldier's beard,  
As the willow-tufts so weird,  
Nigh the "Fork."

Chill, indeed, the atmosphere,  
Chill the waters flashing clear,  
Chill the trees;  
That, returning the salute  
Of the sentry, you give boot  
In a sneeze!

Tents to rival well their chiefs,  
Hive, hard by, your "off reliefs,"  
Snug as bees;  
Workers, prompt their inner "packs"  
As their outer shining stacks  
For to seize.

Stragglers, leave-men, scouts, a-tramp,  
Or Shoshones seeking camp,  
Pinched of maws,  
Guards engage—as eke astride  
Of their ponies where they ride,  
Jaunty squaws.

Ravens, likewise cherry birds,  
You note nigh where our herds  
We did slay,  
Like winged parson folks,  
Enlivening with their croaks  
All the day.

Lest, too, at night should slack  
The concert, many a pack  
Hither prowls  
Of wolves, that, black or gray,  
For their offal feasts repay  
Awful howls.

Well, the picket, posted lone,  
Brings anon his weapon down  
With their din;  
As might fiends at issue fall,  
With a yelling fight, where all  
Counted in.

For you, too, on your "round,"  
Through the wolver sort of ground,  
Mind the text,  
Lest some challenge answered not,  
Give promotion, through a shot,  
To your next.

Stupendous are the winks—  
So at least the general thinks,†  
Ta'en by some  
With the dull hours dragging on  
'Twixt the midnight and the dawn  
Slow to come.

Not by me; upon my stone,  
In my tent once more alone,  
This same fire  
As I feed, and feed with sticks,  
Lest among its other tricks,  
It expire.

Pipe and 'bacco! joy untold;  
Or belike ye paper old  
As 'tis brown;  
Till your candle, spent and done,  
From its bayonet, with a run,  
Sputters down.

Ye Mormons! hugging close  
Your doxies adipose,  
For your crime  
Take heed lest well ye pay,  
Further yet upon our way  
As we climb!

'Twas the like of you, indeed,  
To bid us, at our speed,  
Hereat halt;  
Munching ever, as we cool  
Our heels, at ox or mule,  
Minus salt.‡

Bid us here, in quarters' stead,  
As of eke our "nights in bed,"  
Shine to toast—  
Or better, as may chance  
Holding, freezeful, 'mid like haunts,  
Like queer post.

Ye, too, far otherwhere,  
'Tis even thus our rhyme me dare,  
As 'tis thus  
We, farther, through like tour,  
Kill the time that else, for sure,  
Might kill us.

And save the President;  
And, if better nought be sent,  
Grant our grief  
Soon to list the outward tramp,  
Telling, blest, both prog and camp,  
And "relief!"

\* A branch of "Smith's," not "Hama's" Fork—reached late in November, '57.

† The late Sidney Johnson commanding, though not responsible for the mishaps of the expedition, which took place previous to his joining—November 4th. Killed, afterward, on rebel side, at Shiloh.

‡ Owing to destruction of a large portion of our trains by the Mormons, at and near Green River, as well as impossibility of further supply from the rear, the troops at Fort Bridger, or "Bridger's Fort," were for more than four months without salt. Out of a small lot surreptitiously got into camp, from the Great Lake, many were glad to purchase at \$6 the pound, in gold.



## "LET US HAVE PEACE."

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: "Non nostrum inter vos tantas componere lites," and yet we crave to say a few words upon the subject of the much-abused yet inoffensive West Point Association: inoffensive even though the fondest dreams of its originators should be realized. The arguments of its opponents have, in the main, been weak, if not absurd, while from its friends we have its object stated no more clearly than appeared originally in the prospectus, which is an array of trite generalities meaning anything or nothing. There is, we conceive, but one good argument against the scheme—and that is all sufficient—namely, its utter uselessness; upon all other points opinions will be pretty evenly divided throughout the Army, and the best proof that its want of utility is the universal objection will be found in the early dissolution of the Association.

There are many officers in the service who are honest enough to admit the whole affair to be "none of their business," and we vouch for the fact that where there is one officer from civil life who is absolutely opposed to the Association, there are twenty graduates holding like views. Therefore, though the Association dies, and thus affords our funny correspondent "York" an opportunity to write its epitaph, it will not be owing to the violent opposition of a few ferocious knights of the quill, but because the graduates themselves refuse to endorse it. The almost universal expression is, "I can't see the use of it, at least ten dollars worth," and the generality of this sentiment is the death warrant of the embryo society.

Let it be hoped that the two hundred and fifty dollars now in the hands of the treasurer will creditably defray the funeral expenses of the now-sick infant, and in mercy let the poor baby die in peace. Its unlucky progenitors have already encountered "whips and scorns" in their unlucky venture. Respect, we pray, you would be wits, their threatened bereavement, and try to remember that they, at least equally with yourselves, have a right to their opinions as to the merits of their own scheme; and, if you are non-graduates, we beseech you to remember that you are meddling with what concerns you not, while if you are graduates your opposition is sufficiently effective, is in much better taste, and will trouble you less, if confined to a silent refusal of membership.

OZARK.

## A PLEA FOR "WAITING ORDERS."

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In the admirable report of the General of the Army to the Secretary of War, under the head of "Consolidation," the opinion is expressed that a disbandment of officers is supposed to be inevitable, and since it must come, it is thought to be but fair, "that the blow should first fall" on those officers who are off duty at their own request. These words are ominous, and it behooves all officers of this class who are anxious to remain in the Army, to unite in raising their respectful but earnest objections against being deprived of their hard-earned commissions, and submit their claims for retention in the Army either through the columns of the JOURNAL or their friends in Congress. There is, no doubt, a large number of officers, now on "waiting orders" by their own request, who have assigned special reasons therefor, and whose reasons have been virtually acknowledged by the Department's granting their applications, but who are, nevertheless, desirous of retaining their commissions in the Army. The Honorable Secretary of War very properly recognizes this class of officers, and recommends them to the consideration of Congress. There is no doubt also, but that very many of these officers, now off duty, might also be classed amongst the very best in the Army, who have earned their commissions by long service, and faithful performance of duty; who have given all their attention to the profession they have adopted and regarded as permanent, and are now poorly prepared to be deprived of their living, and be compelled "to begin life anew." This is not the way a generous government rewards its servants, who have devoted the best years of their life to its service, and I am persuaded that if Congress is only advised of the wishes of this class of officers, their interests will not be entirely disregarded. In order then that no officer shall be deprived of his commission, who is anxious to retain it, I would suggest that instead of disbanding the officers who are off duty at their own request, no pay be allowed them until such time as vacancies occur in the several arms of the service to which they may be assigned. In this interval they will be under no expense whatever to the Government, and hence there can be no reasonable grounds for taking away their commissions. These officers I know can ill afford to do without their pay, but I think that if they were consulted as to which of the two alternatives they would choose—to suffer a temporary loss of pay or to be disbanded—there would be but one answer, and that to let the pay go and retain their commission. To do this, it will be necessary to frame a law, setting forth that no promotions or appointments shall be made in the cavalry or artillery regiments until all unattached officers are assigned. This would meet the recommendation of the Honorable Secretary of War, who has stated in his report to the President his opinion that the cavalry and artillery should bear their proportion of the reduction of officers equally with the infantry. If some such method of reduction be decided upon—the justice of which will be acknowledged by all reasonable persons—the ends of the Government, which appear to be toward a wholesome retrenchment of expenses, will be attained, and all officers who are attached to the profession, can be permitted to remain in it, without expense to the Government, until they are called to duty. Those who do not intend to remain in the Army, will of course have no object in holding their commissions when the pay is stopped, and will straightway resign them. If this rule, or one similar be adopted, a very few months would suffice to absorb all the officers now off duty, and thus justice would in a measure be administered to all those

officers who have been so unfortunate as to have reasons for asking to be placed on the list of  
December 14, 1869.

"AWAITING ORDERS."

Another officer writes as follows:

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It seems to be generally believed that at its coming session, Congress will pass some legislation reducing the number of infantry officers, especially as General Sherman recommends the muster out of officers now on "waiting orders."

Under the 17th section of the act of Congress, approved August 3, 1861, many officers have been wholly retired from service with one year's pay and allowances on account of disability resulting from their own misconduct—drunkenness and the like.

It seems to me that, in all fairness, officers, who, after ten, fifteen, or twenty years of faithful service, have been guilty of an offence of certainly no greater magnitude than that of applying for a leave of absence, ought not to be turned out upon their own resources on less favorable terms than those who have been repeatedly guilty of a grave military crime.

A. O.

## REORGANIZATION OF THE ENGINEER CORPS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It is of course necessary to assume that the Senate passed the bill of the 16th of March, 1869, for the reorganization of the Navy, for the purpose of improving the Naval establishment, and that senators regarded each section as tending to that end; an analysis of those sections which reorganize the Engineer Corps will show clearly that the passage of the bill as it now reads would result in a great injury to that corps, without benefiting any other branch of the service.

It is evident that the bill as a whole does not contemplate any reduction of the naval force, as the number of line officers is increased 109, or more than 17 per cent. of their whole number. The only reason there can be, then, for reducing the number of engineers is that there is not employment for the present number; but an examination of the register for January, 1869, shows a larger percentage of line officers idle than of engineers. If, then, it is necessary to increase the line more than 17 per cent. the engineers should have their number increased more than that, instead of being reduced as the bill provides.

The next feature of the bill is the changes in the grades. The corps, as shown in the register of last January, is composed of 49 chief engineers; 91 first assistant engineers; 112 second assistant engineers; 33 third assistant engineers. The bill proposes to establish 3 inspectors of machinery; 5 deputy inspectors of machinery; 8 staff engineers; 30 engineers; 60 first assistant engineers; 74 second assistant engineers.

The second, third and fourth of these titles are in my opinion highly objectionable. During the rebellion a great many of our chief engineers were detailed to the duty of inspectors of machinery; there were also a large number detailed as inspectors of iron-clad steamers, a much more important duty, as in this case they had not only to perform the duty of inspectors of the machinery but also of the vessel with its armature. Now it is proposed that five of these chief who stand nearly at the head of the list, shall be commissioned with the title of deputy inspector of machinery. Indeed, the present chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering would be a deputy inspector, an officer whose commission as a chief engineer dates back seventeen years.

Next after deputy inspectors come staff engineers. As all engineers are, by act of Congress, staff officers, the idea of designating any portion of them as staff engineers strikes me as peculiarly absurd. Next comes the title of engineer, to which that of chief engineer is to be changed. This is undoubtedly brought about on the ground that surgeons have the grades of assistant and passed-assistant surgeon, and then surgeon, and by the proposed change the engineers will be second and first assistant engineers and then engineers. Thus a uniformity is obtained, which does not now exist; though what need there is for uniformity in this respect I have yet to learn.

In civil life a surgeon is a surgeon, neither more nor less, and every man known as such is assumed to be a person of collegiate education and entitled on every account to the consideration due to a member of one of the liberal professions. In the case of engineers, however, every man who watches the running of a one-horse engine is called an engineer, and every one knows that there are thousands of illiterate men enjoying this title by virtue of their occupation.

When, however, the steam machinery, in any case, is on a scale of such magnitude as to require more than one superintendent at the same time, the leading man is called the chief engineer. This is especially the case on board of sea-going ships; and the Navy, in adopting it, simply followed the practice of civil life.

As soon as a young third assistant has entered the service he becomes known as an engineer in the Navy. He may or may not be a man of such education and character as to entitle him to equal consideration with members of the liberal professions, but before the grade of chief engineer in the Navy is reached, the ignorant and unqualified have become so weeded out, and the experience and study gained while in the grades of assistants, have been so improving, that a chief engineer in the Navy has come to be everywhere recognized as a gentleman of culture, entitled on every account to associate on terms of equality with members of the liberal professions. To remove the title of chief would therefore be to remove the *prima facie* guarantee of their title, to the consideration properly due them.

The following list would meet present wants and accord in its nomenclature with the usages of the service: 18 fleet engineers; 32 chief engineers; 100 first assistant engineers; 100 second assistant engineers; 100 third assistant engineers; and 100 cadet engineers.

The fleet engineers would alternate between being

chief of Navy-yards, and going to sea in flag-ships, besides supplying one to be chief of Bureau of Engineers. The cadet engineers would attend the Naval Academy. As compared with the number of officers in the line, the above is too small, but, as compared with the present requirements of the service, it is probably sufficient.

The bill does not provide in any manner for keeping up the supply of engineers. Indeed, the reduction of the number in each grade, and the abolition of the lowest one, has very much the appearance of an attempt to commence the annihilation of the corps altogether. There are line officers in the service who affect to believe that the education now imparted to students at the Naval Academy, including as it does some lessons on steam and the steam engine, is sufficient to make the graduates of that institution engineers, as well as navigators and gunners, but no greater mistake could possibly be committed. The knowledge which those young men get about the steam engine at the Academy will be of great use to them, during their career as naval officers, but only as enabling them to perform their own proper duties with greater efficiency.

My experience in the service was uniform that only those officers who had given special attention to the steam engine could realize with a steamer all the advantages of steam over sail. It was equally uniform that such officers always appreciated more fully than others the technical knowledge of the engineer, paid more respect to it and were decidedly the pleasantest associates for an engineer.

To become an engineer, worthy of the name, a man must make his profession the main study and practice of his life. The line officer is too much occupied in his own profession proper to do more than acquire that general intelligence about the steam engine necessary to enable him to command with advantage a vessel supplied with steam power.

There is another small class of line officers who advocate the abolition of the present Engineer Corps, and propose that the machinery be under the immediate charge of machinists who will ship as a superior class of firemen, the same as we have now for oilers and first-class men. But all experience has shown, both in the navies of different countries and in the mercantile marine, that the saving made in the coal account and in the wear and tear of machinery, by employing thorough engineers to manage the engines of ships at sea, is many times greater than the amount paid for the salaries of such men. The regular professional engineer, of recognized ability, is always so full, too, of resource in times of disaster, that a ship is often saved by his skill, which would have otherwise been lost.

To maintain a steam Navy, therefore, in the highest efficiency, there must be a corps of first-class engineers, and it is as true of these, as it is of other officers that the higher their professional attainments, the more efficient will be the Navy. Congress should therefore provide for recruiting the Engineer Corps in such a manner as to insure the highest professional character it is possible to give it. An attempt was made a few years ago to educate the engineers at the Naval Academy, but as the plan was based upon wrong principles, it failed of course.

The most successful engineers of this country, whether as designers, superintendents of construction or repairs, or as managers of engines at sea, have been those who commenced by working in a machine shop where steam engines were made. People may talk this down as much as they choose, the stubborn fact remains, and it always will remain, because the minute details upon which the proper working of a steam engine so much depends, is never learned in any other way.

Now the course taught at the Naval Academy was just what is required for the line officer, and to him it will be of great benefit, as I have already explained, but to make an engineer something is required besides playing at the business. The true way to provide the Navy with engineers who will reflect credit upon it, is to require the same qualifications for an appointment as cadet engineer as was formerly required for a third assistant, viz.: that he should have been employed at least two years in the actual fabrication of steam engines, have a good ordinary English education, be able to describe on a black board an engine and boiler, bring samples of his skill in mechanical drawing, have a good character, etc., etc., be not less than twenty nor more than twenty-five years old, etc.

After having passed a satisfactory examination as above, before a board of chief engineers, he should be placed at the Naval Academy, the cadet engineers of course forming classes separate from the cadet midshipmen, because they would not only follow a different course of study, but would be older. The fact that a young man who is old enough to have worked at least two years at a mechanical trade, is rather old to enter an academy gives rise to the question, Why not send him to the Academy first and then to a machine shop afterward? The reply is that he would, as a rule, then learn very little in the shop. The pride of position is usually much greater in a midshipman than in an admiral, or in a cadet engineer than in a chief. Appoint a young man a cadet engineer, send him two years to the Academy, and afterward to a machine shop, and he would feel himself above the drudgery it is necessary he should undergo.

Let the young man, however, be in a state of uncertainty while in the workshop and his ambition excited to become a good workman, in order to more surely pass the coming examination, and he will learn in two years what will be of inestimable advantage to him during his entire subsequent career.

ALBAN C. STIMERS.

[In a former letter of Mr. Stimers the word *education* was printed *education*, in the sentence stating that the older naval officers, who have passed their lives in the use of naval ships, have yet had nothing to do "with the scientific education required to proportion any of the detailed part."—EDITOR JOURNAL.]



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### THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

IN the matter of sea-coast and lake-frontier defences, only moderate progress has been made during the past year, General HUMPHREYS tells us, in his report as Chief of Engineers, and only upon those portions of the defensive works which involve no problems still in process of investigation. This means, in one word, that nothing has been added to the essential strength of our defensive works, and nothing has been attempted beyond keeping them in repair.

Ditches have been widened and deepened, sea-walls built, counterscarps raised, magazines and casemates repaired or altered, and this and similar work completes the record of the year, so far as our forts are concerned. In view of the present transition state of our systems of fortification, this policy is, doubtless, wise and conservative; but it does nothing to relieve us of the uncomfortable doubt as to what our forts are worth. One thing has certainly been positively settled by the Engineer Corps—that is the question as to the value of the RYAN-HITCHCOCK mode of marine fortification. In a letter, addressed to Congress, the Secretary of War has transmitted the results of investigation into this system, with which the Board of Engineers were charged by General SHERMAN, under authority of a joint resolution passed by Congress in February.

The RYAN-HITCHCOCK fort is of a design similar to the revolving turret of the monitor, made to float in a basin of water to be constructed level, within range of some sea channel, and designed to cover with its impenetrable shield eight large guns with the necessary stores and men for resisting the passage of hostile fleets. The results of the investigation are pithily summed up by General SHERMAN in the statement that, in his judgment, "a revolving iron fort, on land, is both useless and impracticable. An iron casemate of the dimensions of the RYAN-HITCHCOCK plan, to be impenetrable to modern shot, will be so heavy that to revolve it on friction rollers, or floating on water, will be impracticable by means of cranks moved by men, and will demand steam-power, which will add to the weight of the fort, and greatly increase its liability to decay and derangement by time, and by the impact of heavy shot.

"I do not believe," he adds, "it can be revolved and checked so as to admit of careful aim in the short space of a minute for each gun. I believe that earth is the true parapet to resist shot, and that a firm ground is better for accuracy of aim than a floating turret; and the gunners must take the chances of heavy, massive shot, and trust to smaller shields, as against grape-shot. I therefore report that, in my judgment, the proposed advantages of the RYAN-HITCHCOCK fort do not warrant the cost of building one."

In their report on the subject, the Board of Engineers state that, so far as they can learn, no nation has yet arrived at a satisfactory method of putting together iron structures to withstand the 600-pounder rifled projectile, and still less the projectiles of the 20-inch smooth-bore, and the KRUPP 14-inch rifled gun; and it is not improbable that guns equivalent in power to the 20-inch

may yet be put upon turreted ships. It does not, therefore, seem judicious to enter upon large expenditures for iron structures of defence. "Since they were first adapted to naval construction by ERICSSON, various plans of turrets for shore batteries have been devised; but this board has recommended none for trial, considering the expense of such experiments too great to be incurred, so long as the art of making iron structures adequate to resist modern ordnance was so imperfectly understood, and believing that a resort to the costly turret system was as yet premature."

In his official report, as Chief of Engineers, Gen. HUMPHREYS says: "It cannot be ascertained whether the use of iron or its compounds has been definitely adopted as a constituent of those parts of defensive works that are exposed to the fire of heavy artillery, while thus far it appears that in its application to ships this metal does not afford the desired resistance to heavy shot." A detailed report of the experiments conducted on this side of the Atlantic has been nearly completed. Its conclusions are simply negative, showing in what cases we cannot enter upon the use of metals for strengthening our fixed defenses. As the result of the experiments at Old Point Comfort and Fort Delaware, of which we gave an account at the time, the opinion is expressed, that iron may be made available in shielding casemate guns in our existing masonry casemates. The present difficulties are, its excessive cost and the imperfection in the process of metal working in this country. A modification of the present barbette carriage and platform, mounting a 15-inch gun, has been tested experimentally with maximum charges of 100 pounds of powder, and solid shot weighing 432 pounds. The results are believed to justify the opinion that this method of mounting guns is not only practicable so far as to secure the necessary cover, but that our heavy guns may be worked in this manner with a reasonable number of men, and without the aid of steam power or other auxiliaries of questionable utility. The magnitude of this experiment compares with that of Captain MONCRIEFF, the only similar one of which we have information, as follows:

Weight of gun.....	50,000 pounds
Weight of shot used in the experiments (old pattern).....	432 pounds
Weight of charge.....	100 pounds
Caliber of gun.....	15-inch
Descent of gun during recoil.....	5 feet
Weight of gun (Captain Moncrieff's).....	15,000 pounds
Weight of shot (Captain Moncrieff's).....	115 pounds
Weight of charge (Captain Moncrieff's).....	22 pounds
Caliber of gun (Captain Moncrieff's).....	7-inch
Descent of gun during recoil (Captain Moncrieff's).....	3 feet

The Board of Engineers for fortifications have reached the conclusion that the system of defence hereafter to be followed should include powerful barbette batteries for the heaviest guns, carefully protected by traverses and parados, and liberally furnished with magazines and bomb-proofs; the substitution of a depressed gun carriage for the model now in use, providing for the descent of the gun upon discharge, entirely below the level of its earthen covers, and, finally, the free use of large mortars and torpedoes, obstructions and floating batteries. Such are the results of the studies of our Engineer Corps for the year. If these have not yet advanced beyond the initial stage of experiment and suggestion, they give evidence of progress, and of progress in the right direction, and point to changes in the future sufficiently radical to amount to a reorganization of our whole system of coast defence.

THE work of the signal service, during the past year, has been, of course, mainly that of instruction and supply—it could hardly be otherwise in time of peace. However, the results accomplished in the last twelvemonth have been extremely satisfactory, and we are quite sure that General MYER, chief signal officer, did not anticipate too much in saying, as he does, in his annual report, "The time is not far distant, probably, when acquaintance with the simpler signal codes will be common in both the Army and Navy." The year's expenditures have been but \$12,000 for the entire signal service; and instruction has been widely diffused in the Army and Navy. The post of Fort Whipple, Virginia, has been maintained as a post of practice and instruction, and the zeal with which the Navy has taken up signal instruction is one of the notable features of the year.



The Board of Visitors to the Military Academy, in their report for the year, are unanimous in commending the introduction of the signal service drill into that institution; and recommend that the Academy be kept well supplied with all improved apparatus for this duty, and that a fixed value and standing be given the study as an incentive to exertion on the part of the cadets. The Secretary of War, in his report, calls attention to the fact that the signal service has been brought into active use in operations against Indians on the Plains. Taking them altogether, the Corps has reason to be proud of its honors.

THE news comes from Washington that a treaty has finally been negotiated, whereby our Government takes possession of the Bay and Peninsula of Samana for a period of fifty years, at a yearly rental of \$150,000 per annum, in coin, with the privilege of purchasing at any time at the price of \$2,000,000. These are the same terms which Mr. SEWARD offered for the same property, but which were declined by BAEZ. This price having thus been offered once by our Government, the Dominicans declined to accept less, and the rental was fixed at the rate of about seven and a half per cent. of the contingent purchase money. The negotiations have progressed so far that actual possession has been taken by our Government, and a treaty covering the concession will shortly be transmitted to the Senate. General O. E. BABCOCK, U. S. A., of the President's staff, who has been chief commissioner in this negotiation, has returned to Washington with the treaty. Its confirmation by the Senate will secure to us an important naval station in the Gulf of Mexico, and one which we have long needed.

THE chief topics in military circles here, writes the Washington correspondent of the JOURNAL, are naturally the recommendations made by General Sherman in his report respecting the reorganization of the Army, and the probable action of Congress upon the subject. Considerable surprise is expressed at the paragraph in the report in which the General favors the disbandment of the officers who may be found to be supernumerary after the completion of whatever new organization may be prescribed by law. Those who remember the long struggle over the Army bill in the Fortieth Congress, and the gallant efforts of General Garfield to prevent the muster-out of the officers who were left without commands by the consolidation of the infantry regiments, will recollect that one of his strongest arguments was that a clearly-implied contract was made by the Government with officers who accepted commissions in the new organization, provided for in 1866 by the "Act to increase and fix the Military Peace Establishment," that their positions should be secured to them during good behavior, as the positions of all officers in the Regular Army had been before, and that to dismiss them from the service would be a breach of faith dishonorable to the Government. The Army was unanimous, at the time, in sustaining this view of the tenure of military commissions, and it had the support of the best legal minds in Congress. If the Army had not been a unit on the question—if leading generals had taken the ground that the surplus officers might be mustered out without injustice to them—the clamor for applying the knife to the Army would, doubtless, have prevailed, and the six hundred and twenty-two officers whom the consolidation, made under the act of March last, left supernumerary, would have found themselves under the necessity of at once returning to civil life.

Now the case is changed. The new Congress is even more bent upon retrenchment and economy than was the old one, and General Sherman declares that no army can be efficient without holding out to the junior officers the hope of promotion, and recommends the disbandment of supernumeraries. True, if the whole of the General's recommendations were adopted, there would be no supernumeraries, for he proposes to add two companies to each of the infantry regiments, and to have three lieutenants to each company of infantry and cavalry, and an extra major to each regiment, which would make places for 35 majors, 50 captains and 570 lieutenants, in addition to the officers included in the present regimental organizations. After dispensing with the office of extra lieutenants acting as regimental adjutants, quartermasters and commissaries, there would still be more than vacancies enough for all the 500 officers now reported as supernumerary. This plan would assuredly be an acceptable one to the Army, but I would not advise any officer to build his hopes of promotion or continuance in the service upon it, for it has not the ghost

of a chance of passing Congress, nor has any other plan which involves an increase of expenditures for military purposes. If disbandment, which the General regards as inevitable, should come, it will not be disbandment for the purpose of reappointing the officers to places in a new organization, but an absolute muster out of the service of all supernumeraries.

It is yet too early in the session to predict what will be the action of Congress on this question further than that it will be adverse to any increase of the Army or of the expense necessary to maintain it, and that some measure, more or less sweeping in its character, for disposing of the surplus officers, will be brought forward this session, with a prospect of passing, backed, as it will be, by the recommendation of the General of the Army. The House Military Committee, that under the chairmanship of General Garfield in the last Congress, resisted earnestly all attempts to muster out officers as an injustice and breach of faith, is no longer the same. None of the old members are now upon it, and the new committee is composed entirely of men who held high rank in the Volunteer service during the war, and who, no doubt, share the prejudices of most Volunteer officers against West Point and the Regular Army. It is expected that they will, soon after the holiday recess, report some measure for mustering out the supernumeraries, but I think it may be regarded as certain that whatever reduction their bill may contemplate will not have to be borne entirely by the line of the Army, but will fall proportionately upon the staff corps. As to the Military Committee of the Senate, it has heretofore reflected pretty faithfully the views of the War Department, and if there is no longer any objection in that quarter to the mustering out of officers, it is fair to suppose that the Senate will not oppose the passage of a bill for that purpose.

The considerations which I have thus briefly given, lead me to the conclusion that a disbandment in some form may be looked upon as, to say the least, among the possibilities of the coming year.

The Superintendent of Indian Affairs for New Mexico forwards to the Indian office a report on the condition of the Mescalero Apache Indians which states that they are still on the war path. On the night of November 13th a party of twenty of them took about 100 head of cattle from a man living twenty miles east of Fort Stanton, on the Rio Hondo. The commanding officer at Fort Stanton sent Lieutenant Cushing and a detachment of thirty-two men of Company F, Third Cavalry, in pursuit of them. The cavalry followed their trail over very rough and broken country, and overtook the Indians (about 100) in a canon on the north side of the Guadalupe Mountains, about 200 miles south of Fort Stanton, and at noon on the 18th attacked them. After fighting three hours, Lieutenant Cushing completely routed the Indians, killing and wounding fifteen, and capturing about forty head of the stolen stock, and twenty-six horses and mules belonging to the savages. They abandoned their property during the fight, and took to the rocks on the sides of the canon, which were upward of a thousand feet high. The trail was very difficult to follow, the Indians frequently dividing into small parties, and scattering over the country to conceal it. Lieutenant Cushing travelled the last 120 miles of the pursuit without water for his men and animals.

THE subjoined memorial was addressed to each officer brevetted and confirmed March 3, 1869, with this result: Deceased, 4; declined to sign, 3; Indian brevets, 7; no response from 18; signed memorial, 129; total 161, the number confirmed March 3, 1869. The memorial was sent to Senator Wilson and the Honorable John A. Logan with a letter from H. Clay Wood, assistant adjutant-general and brevet brigadier-general U. S. Army, reciting these facts, and stating that several of the officers interested have passed their lives in the Army; others have lost limbs upon the battle-field, and the majority were brevetted for field service during the late war; and that the memorial was prepared in their behalf, firmly believing that the Senate of the United States, by the act of confirmation, intended to, and supposed it had, recognized the claims of these meritorious and deserving public servants. The memorial, with the original signatures, was also forwarded.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled: Your memorialists would respectfully represent that, on the 3d of March, 1869, they were severally confirmed by the Senate of the United States to certain brevet rank in the United States Army; that, on the 1st of March, 1869, the President of the United States approved an act of Congress entitled "An Act to amend the Act of April tenth, eighteen hundred and six, for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States," by the second section of which law

it is understood they are deprived of the Brevets confirmed March third, and for which brevets the War Department has declined to issue commissions. Your memorialists are well assured that it was not the intention of the President or the Senate of the United States to deprive them of these brevets, and therefore they would respectfully request the passage of a law or joint resolution excepting them from the provisions of said act of March, 1, 1869.

THE Board of Managers of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteers met at the office of the Surgeon-General in Washington, on the 15th instant. The annual reports read showed that nearly 4,000 disabled soldiers and sailors were supported or aided by the managers during the past year; 112 died during the year, and 551 having been restored to health, or prepared in the asylum schools and workshops to support themselves, were honorably discharged; 182 belonged to the Regular Army, and 44 to the Navy, and all the rest to the Volunteer service. Their disabilities were, loss of both arms, 9; loss of both legs, 8; loss of one arm, 331; loss of one leg, 420; blind, 177; insane, 52; disabled by other wounds, 1,054. Treated in hospital, 1,348. There was not a single case of epidemic or malarious disease, showing the healthfulness of the locations selected for asylums. Of the whole, 1,304 receive pensions; 1,193 are native-born, and 774 are married. The regular asylums are now completed, and all the men at the temporary homes will be at once transferred.

MESSRS. S. C. Griggs & Co., of Chicago, have published the proceedings of the Army Reunion held at Chicago, December 15 and 16, 1868, in a handsome volume of 339 pages, containing full reports of the addresses and speeches delivered before the different Army Societies participating in that Reunion, copies of the letters of members and invited guests unable to be present, reports of the proceedings of the business meetings, and list of officers and members. From this last it appears that the Society of the Army of the Cumberland numbers some 850 members, that of the Tennessee 700, the Ohio 200, and of Georgia 120. As these numbers have since been increased their present membership must represent a grand total of over two thousand. The volume is illustrated with steel plate portraits of Generals Sherman, Thomas, Rawlins, Schofield and Slocum, and with colored designs of the several Society badges. It is printed on the best of tinted paper, in a style which does the highest credit to Chicago skill. This Army Reunion is historical, and we are glad to see its memorial preserved in a style so beautiful and enduring.

SOME weeks ago Mr. Hinkle of Hardin made a proposition to the lower branch of the Tennessee Legislature to sell the portrait of General George H. Thomas, hanging in the State Library, and painted at the expense of the State, which proposition failed by a large majority. General Thomas has written a letter to John Ruhm, of Nashville, stating that he has written to the Speaker of the House to ascertain the cost of painting the portrait, adding that he would refund the money. He also says he will return to the present Legislature, as soon as he can get it, the gold medal voted him by the last Legislature in commemoration of the Union victory over the Rebel forces in front of Nashville, in December, 1864.

A REPORT of the proceedings of the Society of the Army of the James, at the first Triennial Reunion, held in Boston, Sept. 2, 1868, has been compiled by General Charles A. Carleton, Treasurer, and published by Carleton, publisher. A copy is sent to each member of the Society, and a limited number are in the hands of the Treasurer, to be forwarded upon application to him.

IN accordance with instructions from the Commissioner of Pensions, hereafter no agent or attorney will be recognized who has not filed his oath and license as a claim agent, at the Pension Office, Washington, D. C., or against whom there is any proof of non-conformity to the regulations of the Pension office, or suspicion of fraud.

THE President has sent to the Senate the following nominations among others: William S. Johnston, late first lieutenant in the Forty-third Infantry, to be first lieutenant of Infantry; Frederick W. Bailey, late captain in the Thirty-fifth Infantry, to be captain of Infantry; Ebenezer Gay, late major in the Seventeenth Infantry, to be major of Infantry.

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT is once more in his usual health, and will be at home with Mrs. F. at his residence, No. 118 East Thirty-sixth street, near Park avenue, New York, to receive his friends of the Army and Navy and of the Loyal Legion.



## SWINTON'S THIRD WAR HISTORY.

THE third and last of Mr. William Swinton's remarkable series of histories of the War is now published. The first, the "Army of the Potomac," was designed to cover the story of the great contest in Virginia for the capture of Richmond; the second, the "Twelve Battles," was meant to embrace, in a sweeping glance, the leading, pivotal events of the entire war, both West and East; this third and last is a tribute to our militia, or citizen-soldiery, under the form of the "History of the Seventh Regiment." This brilliant writer delineates and groups a series of picturesque incidents, which, though strictly confined to the record of one regiment, are really representative in their character, even as the "Seventh Regiment National Guard" was, at the time of which we write—to use the words of Stephen A. Douglas—"an unrivalled regiment of citizen-soldiers." And hence the book becomes one which not only the regiment and every man connected with it will take a certain pride in possessing, but which, we presume, all the National Guard, and even our militia in other States, many of whom have had pleasant connection with the Seventh, will peruse with interest and profit.

As a work for general perusal, this volume must take a high place among the historic contributions out of which the ultimate history of the war will be written. It is one of those monographs in which great attention to detail results in a specific perfection that cannot be attained in any more sweeping history. As such, it is pretty certain to find its way into most private as well as public libraries of importance, and so to carry far and wide its record of what a single regiment of New York citizen-soldiery did for the country in its hour of peril.

The following extracts will, however, give a good idea of the style and spirit of the book, which is often eloquent, often humorous, and always interesting:

## BROADWAY, THE 19TH OF APRIL, 1869.

Broadway, the great aorta of the metropolis, was pulsing with an intensity unexampled in the city's history. For hours the people had swarmed upon every standing place along the two-mile route, climbing, like the Roman populace at Pompey's triumphs, "to towers and battlements, yea, to chimney-tops." The transit of the Eighth Massachusetts Regiment, earlier in the day, had only whetted expectancy to keener edge for the pageant that remained. Struggling to betoken in some visible symbol the feeling within them, all the people had, with common instinct, resorted to the display of that sacred emblem of patriotism, the flag of the country. Everywhere, accordingly, the national colors floated, making Broadway a carnival scene. Splendid banners flapped in the wind from every larger house-top or curled from fresh flag-staffs; pennants streamed from ropes athwart all the streets of the city, and from all mast-heads in the harbor; facades were swathed with broad bands of red, white, and blue; flags were thrust out from the windows. As if ever mindful of the shame of Sumter, men and women bore the tricolor on their breasts, wore it in their hats, fastened it to their horses' heads, and caused the very children to wave their tiny bunting along the streets.

In such garb was Broadway decked to hail the regiment. Zouaves heading the column, in spontaneous escort, with red shirts, blue flowing trousers, gay fez caps, and hairy knapsacks trussed up behind; the motley costumes of workmen in paper caps and leather aprons; the handsome attire of the regiment itself, and their flashing bayonets—made the pavements below as picturesque as the bannered parapets above, and the windows dressed with the gay garments of ladies. Over the whole the sun poured the glory of his parting rays.

It was less a march than a triumphal procession. Many thousands joined the moving column, preceding the march in escort, or following in rear. Street, sidewalks, areas, fences, stoops, balconies, windows, roofs, nay, trees, lamp-posts, awnings, every foot of available space, held spectators, and for long distances on the side streets the compact throngs struggled for a glance. So soon as, at any point, the people caught sight of the familiar gray, black-trimmed uniform and caps, set off by the blue overcoat, or even at the shimmer of the distant bayonets, they took up the cheering, which never for a moment ceased. At every point tradesmen and others were assembled to give concerted cheers, and the firemen had run their engines up the side streets, where they jangled the bells as the regiment passed. "Was there ever such an ovation?" wrote gallant Fitz-James O'Brien, who carried a gun on that memorable day. "When Trajan returned conqueror, dragging barbaric kings at his chariot-wheels, Rome vomited its people into the streets, and that glorious column that will ever be immortal was raised. But what greeted the Emperor at his outset? The marble walls of Broadway were never before rent with such cheers as greeted us when we passed. The faces of the buildings were so thick with people, that it seemed as if an army of black ants were marching, after their resistless fashion, through the city, and had scaled the houses. Handkerchiefs fluttered in the air like myriads of white butterflies. An avenue of brave, honest faces smiled upon us as we passed, and sent a sunshine into our hearts that lives there still."

But one of the writers of that day, carefully noticing, saw that "there were many handkerchiefs that did not wave, but were pressed convulsively to hide the starting tears;" while on the side streets, along the margin of the hurrying throng, close carriages were drawn up to the curbstones, "at whose back windows were the pale

faces of mothers, their eyes raining tears as they strained for one more look at sons marching away."

Swinging at length about half-past five, out of Broadway into Courtlandt street, the head of column found the latter more lavishly decorated than any other part of the route—a bewildering bower of flags, banners festooned and clustered on every hand, and bands and streamers crossing the street in profusion. Here the merchants, from the business quarters of the island, had been waiting for hours, and now took up the chorus of cheers. The wharves, the buildings on the dock, the ferry-houses, the vessels in the harbor, were also gayly decked with flags, and crowded with sympathetic spectators, who showered blessings on the Seventh as it entered the ferry-boat, while the tugs and steamers on the river rang their bells and sounded their whistles. So dense was the jam in the square fronting the ferry, that it became impossible to march the regiment through in order, and the men escaped as best they could from the carcasses of the crowd to the boat on the river.

Jersey City was not a whit behind New York in the fervor of its greeting and the splendor of its holiday attire. Here, also, men and women had since morning awaited the regiment, filling the region around the ferry landing and the railroad depot. Banners everywhere decorated the facade of the latter building, and hung from the galleries, roof, and cross-ties. The great galleries were filled with ladies, and, at the entrance of the regiment the band playing the "Star-spangled Banner," the building echoed with applause. "The whole city," say the papers of the day, "turned out for only that momentary sight of the Seventh, and, as if to make up for the shortness of the time by an intensity of enthusiasm, the ladies tossed their handkerchiefs, and stripped off their ornaments to throw to the soldiers, as they passed along." The troops, the baggage, and the artillery being on board, the long train, at twenty minutes of seven, rumbled out of the depot, and, amid a torrent of farewell cheers and blessings, gayly respond to by the soldiers, the Seventh moved away to its unknown mission.

## BUTLER AND LEFFERTS AT PHILADELPHIA.

The want of harmony at Philadelphia between the officers of the Seventh and Brigadier-General Butler, and the mortification experienced by the latter on finding that Colonel Lefferts declined to put the regiment under his control, in the absence of authority for such a procedure, induced him, under the prickings of wounded vanity, to put forth some gross misrepresentations, and subsequently led some unwise friends of the Massachusetts general to falsify the historic facts of the period whereof we now write.

The first relations of Colonel Lefferts and General Butler happened as follows: Early on the morning of the 20th April, an aide came to Colonel Lefferts in the depot, saying that "General Butler would like to see him at the Lapiere House." Never having heard of that officer, Colonel Lefferts inquired, in passing, who he was, and observed that he himself was now awaiting dispatches from Washington, but would be happy to wait on him at a later hour. About 7 o'clock Butler himself came down to the depot, and asked Colonel Lefferts "what he proposed to do." The Colonel answered that he had not decided, but was awaiting replies from Washington to his messages. There the interview terminated, and General Butler left the depot.

Here we may pause to note how matters stood with the Massachusetts brigadier. He had reached Philadelphia the evening before the arrival of the Seventh, at which time, so far as was known, communication remained open to Washington. Yet he had not only done nothing, but seemingly had formed no plan of procedure. On the contrary, as has been noted above, his frame of mind was that of an inquirer, and his whole interview with Colonel Lefferts consisted in asking what he proposed to do. It puzzles one to know why Butler had not pushed through to Washington when the road was apparently open. Why did not some of that irrepressible energy which broke out later in the day manifest itself in some determinate action? Was he waiting for the Seventh, which he knew to be on the way? Whatever may be the explanation of this incomprehensible inactivity, certain it is that the General cuts a very different figure from the doughty dare-all he appeared, when, several hours later, he had become acquainted with the plan of Colonel Lefferts.

For when, about 10 A. M., Butler again repaired to the depot, he was informed by Colonel Lefferts (who, as has been seen, having received definite information of the state of the road to Baltimore, had already, in a dispatch to New York, dated 8:15 A. M., announced his decision) that the Seventh regiment was to proceed by transport to Annapolis.

This information had a remarkable effect upon General Butler, who, seeing that the Seventh was already on the point of departure, now eagerly attempted to induce Colonel Lefferts to fall in with a plan which he then for the first time revealed. This was that Colonel Lefferts should join his regiment to the Massachusetts force, and that the whole command should go forward to Havre de Grace by rail, and there take a boat—the ferry-boat *Maryland*—to Annapolis.

After hearing all the arguments which General Butler urged for his plan, Colonel Lefferts was compelled to inform him that he regarded his own route, previously chosen, as the wiser, under all the circumstances.

ONE of the English veterinary surgeons, a Mr. Lord, writes to a medical journal "that homoeopathy is now officially recognized in the veterinary department of her Majesty's forces." Mr. Lord, we are told, has published at various times his experience of the Hahnemannian method during the past five years at the cavalry depot, and so large has been his success, and so superior, apparently, is the homoeopathic treatment over the older method, that some might hesitate to accept Mr. Lord's individual evidence in full were it not that he expressly declares, "I shall avoid making any statements in support of which the testimony of military authority cannot be adduced."

## FOREIGN MILITARY MATTERS.

THE number of suicides in the Army of the Northern Confederation is said to have amounted last year to 150, and this computation is used, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*, as an argument against standing armies by our French philanthropists. There used to be a good number of suicides in the days of the first Napoleon, who penned an order of the day, which still exists, stigmatizing the crime of *felo de se* as desertion to the enemy.

THE Henry-Martini 0.45-inch bore breech-loading rifle, about to be placed in the hands of troops for trial, are in an advanced stage of completion. The ammunition for these experimental arms has been decided on, and is now in course of manufacture at Woolwich. It is the Boxer small-bore breech-loading ammunition, similar in form to that for the service Enfield-Snider arms, but having a solid hardened bullet and a powder charge of 85 grains.

A NEW breech-loading rifle, invented by one Herr Mayhofer, at Königsberg, and called *Zundmesser-Genwehr*, is making some noise in England. At a trial which recently came off in Königsberg the new gun is said to have fired off twenty-five rounds per minute with ball cartridge. It is claimed that the certainty of its aim is as great as the rapidity of its discharges, to which is added the further advantage of a minimum of smoke being produced. It appears that the peculiarity of the invention is not confined to the gun, but extends to the cartridge. Both have been already submitted to the British government, where they are sure to be put to severe tests.

AN article in the last number of the *Preussische Jahrbücher* draws an interesting comparison between the losses of the rival armies in the battle of Königgratz and those sustained at the other principal battles of the last two centuries. It appears that the Prussians lost at Königgratz, in dead, wounded, and missing, 359 officers and 8,794 men; and the Austrians 1,147 officers and 30,224 men. The proportion of the losses to the total force engaged on each side was, for the Prussians, 1-234; for the Austrians, 1-7th; for both together, 1-11th. In the battle of Malplaquet (1709), the proportion of losses was 1-5th; at Rossbach (1757) 1-25th; at Lützen (1758), 1-11th; at Zorndorf (1758), 3-8ths; at Austerlitz (1805), 1-4th; at Eylau (1807), 1-4th; at Wagram (1809), 1-8th; at Borodino (1812), 1-3d; at Leipzig (1813), 1-5th; at Belle Alliance (1815), 1-3d; at Solferino (1859), 1-8th. The three greatest of the above battles, the article proceeds, are those of Leipzig, Königgratz, and Wagram, at which the total number of troops engaged was 460,000, 430,000, and 320,000 respectively. The three bloodiest were Leipzig (90,000 men lost), Borodino (loss 74,000), and Belle Alliance (loss 61,000).

THE war-office authorities at Berlin, it had been generally understood, had decided on adopting a new rifle, but we read in a journal printed in that city that "the Prussian needle-gun has just obtained a new and unexpected success. For the last three years Russia has been experimenting with breech-loaders, and the committee of officers appointed to examine the various systems have reported the Prussian weapon, all considered, the best arm laid before them. The famous Werder rifle adopted by Bavaria has not sustained its reputation. It is easy to be understood that in presence of such testimony from abroad, Prussia becomes more and more attached to an arm which appears at the first attempt to have united more advantages and fewer inconveniences than any other weapon invented since." Now we approach the reason of this unbounded confidence and attachment on the part of the journal in question. "The Northern Confederation," it adds, "possesses 150,000 needle-rifles and a 140,000 carbines of the same system, and to reach her plenum requires 600,000 more rifles and 4,000 more carbines. The field artillery consists of 1,284 steel breech-loaders, which number is to be carried to 1,770." The Prussian authorities are quite aware of the necessity of animating their men with confidence in the superiority of their peculiar weapon, and, with a large stock in hand, an unfavorable criticism might be prejudicial to the service.

HOW GENERAL SHALER GOT HIS COMMISSION.—"Burling" (Rev. Matthew Hale Smith), the New York correspondent of the *Boston Journal*, in a recent letter, tells the following story of the Major-General commanding the First division:

General Shaler was a captain in the Seventh when that corps marched to the defence of the capital. He rose gradually and distinguished himself for his bravery and military ability. In the darkest period of the war a plan of battle was adopted, and a day appointed for a simultaneous attack. Stonewall Jackson obtained knowledge of this intention and anticipated the movement by an attack on Hooker twenty-four hours before the intended movement was to have been made. This attack added another to the disasters that seemed to attend the Federal arms. The next day the programme was carried out, in which Sedgwick made his celebrated fight. Hooker was disabled and the fortunes of the day trembled in the balance. Shaler, by a bold and heroic movement, put his forces in the field, and decided the fortunes of the day. The news was too good to be kept, and a reporter sped himself, as on the wings of the wind, to carry the news to the capital. Through mud and rain and darkness he reached the Government boat just as it was leaving the wharf, and reached Washington late at night. He threw himself down on a bench to get a little repose before he wrote up his account.

Mr. Lincoln had left word with the newsmen that when they had any important intelligence, good or bad, they must bring it to the White House at any time, night or day. The agent in charge ran for the White House. Mr. Lincoln was called out of bed, and he did not stop to put on any clothes, but leaned over the balustrade and demanded the news. The story was told him. "I must see the man," he said. "Bring him here! Bring him here!" The tired correspondent was aroused from his dreams and conducted to the mansion. The President in the meantime had added to his costume, and came down to the office clothed in his shirt and drawers. He heard the graphic story of our successes. When he heard the part General Shaler bore in the victory, the President struck his hands together and exclaimed, "I'll fix that!" As the gentlemen of the press were leaving the White House, one said to the other, "Shaler is a brigadier-general, don't you think so?" "Nothing less than that," was the reply. The next day a gentleman thought he would follow up the matter, and got Mr. Lincoln to request Stanton to issue the commission. "I intend to give Shaler a commission under my own hand," was the reply; and he did it.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE EFFECTS OF THE REORGANIZATION.**—The reorganization of the First division, as published last week, appears to meet with general satisfaction. The disbandment of the Second and Fourth regiments of Infantry had long been considered a foregone conclusion; the official announcement, therefore, caused little comment. The disbandment of the Fourth brigade and the distribution of its component parts among the other brigades was a judicious step, and must meet the approval of every officer having the interest of the division at heart. Some little surprise has been expressed at the transfer of the First regiment from the Third to the First brigade; thus while the First and Second brigades have been apparently increased, the Third has been relieved of one regiment, thereby decreasing the number of regiments in it from that of six to five. On the other hand, while the First brigade, heretofore one of the weakest in the division, has lost one organization by disbandment, it has gained four by transfer, thus rendering it in fact one of the strongest of the division. The Second brigade has been affected but little, for the loss of the First regiment artillery has been amply replaced by the transfer of the Eleventh regiment Infantry. The changes in the organization of the First regiment artillery and the general consolidation of the batteries, etc., will render the artillery arm of the division more efficient, and allow each brigade a howitzer battery. Batteries B, C and K will, we presume, be thus distributed, as they have been rendered independent organizations, but the State will first be compelled to furnish these batteries howitzers before they can render service. The reorganization was made, not as many suppose, by an equal division of the regiments, but strictly on the basis of the numerical strength of the brigades, and the equalization has been made very perfectly, as will be seen from the figures given below, which are official. We also give with these figures, which are in accordance with the annual inspection of 1869, the strength of the brigades before reorganization:

NEW ORGANIZATION.			
	Present.	Absent.	Aggregate.
First brigade.....	2,059	733	2,792
Second brigade.....	2,117	732	2,849
Third brigade.....	1,988	700	2,688
First brigade cavalry.....	766	351	1,117
	6,932	2,516	9,446
OLD ORGANIZATION.			
	Present.	Absent.	Aggregate.
First brigade.....	907	443	1,350
Second brigade.....	1,997	855	2,852
Third brigade.....	2,297	761	3,058
Fourth brigade.....	1,732	681	2,413
First brigade cavalry.....	766	351	1,117
	7,699	3,091	10,790

As will be observed from the above figures, the Infantry brigades have been pretty equally divided, and are now in better shape than ever before. By this reorganization the First and Second brigades become "blue brigades," all the regiments of which they are composed wearing the blue uniforms, while the Third brigade, with the exception of the Ninth, is now uniformed entirely in gray. This latter regiment, we learn, is anxious to take the place of the First regiment in the First brigade, but we cannot conceive why the First should be anxious to lose the right of the division, which it now occupies, unless it clings to old associations in the Third brigade, which is, we understand, the ground of complaint in the regiment. The "Washington Grays" have returned to their former condition as a troop organization, still preserving its name and standing, the organization having been merely reduced. The "Grays" seldom parade with the strength of a battalion, and we think the change, on the whole, will benefit the command. We have not learned of any changes in the plan of reorganization, nor do we think any change will be adopted which will affect the present organization of the divisions.

**SEVENTH REGIMENT.**—In compliance with Special Brigade Orders No. 40, the commissioned officers of this regiment are directed to assemble at the armory in fatigue uniform, with side arms, on Wednesday, the 29th day of December, at 8 o'clock P. M., for theoretical and practical instruction. Battalion drills by division are ordered as follows: Friday, January 7, 1870, Companies A and H; Thursday, January 13th, Companies B and I; Wednesday, January 19th, Companies C and K; Tuesday, January 25th, Companies E and F; Monday, January 31st, Companies D and G. Roll call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M. At this series of drills the battalion will be instructed in parts first, second and third of the School of the Battalion, Upton's Tactics, paragraphs 835-1,113 inclusive. The following named non-commissioned officers have passed the Board of Examination, and have received warrants as non-commissioned officers in this regiment: First Sergeant J. W. Clark, Sergeants J. H. Allen, J. E. Van Rensselaer and W. C. Waters; Corporals A. D. Baldwin, F. G. Brown, F. N. Howland and J. H. Livingston.

The military and civic reception of this command, held on the evening of the 16th inst. at the Academy of Music, was, despite the unpleasant weather, one of the most elegant, select and successful of the public balls of the season, and, indeed, of any of the balls ever held within the walls of this building. The wise policy of limiting the sales of tickets to the comfortable capacity of the building, was fully appreciated by those in attendance—by the wearers of elegant toilets especially. The interior of the Academy was almost free from decoration—the beautiful costumes of the women, and the beautiful women themselves, however, rendering them unnecessary. The promenade began at 8 o'clock, on time; the music was rendered by the regimental band, augmented to 100 pieces. At 10 o'clock, dancing began, with Strauss's gallop. At 1 o'clock precisely the company dispersed. The attendance of distinguished personages, both military and civic, was large. The various committees performed their duties satisfactorily, except the reception committee, which might well have been more active and painstaking. But we do not care to criticize where there was so much to praise.

**STATE ARSENAL.**—The Seventh avenue arsenal is still in an unfinished condition, the work on the interior having progressed very slowly. The upper or drill room really requires a new flooring; but if this is not to be furnished, some of the lime dust which has accumulated on the present floor should be removed. During a battalion drill, held last week, at which we were present, the dust was insufferable. The seats were covered with it, and the unfortunate spectators suffered in patience and apparel. One of the heaters near the stairs had sunk at least four inches, and several of the men came near falling through; in the marching, ranks had to be broken to avoid this man-trap. Perhaps the authorities think it necessary to accustom our citizen-soldiers to constant annoyances and perils as proper preparation. Yet the soldiers themselves think that the re-

pairs might have been postponed until the drill season was over. Some little attention should be given to the muskets used for drilling; at present they are unclean and rusty, and in fixing and unfixing bayonets, especially, much difficulty is experienced. The circle of gas jets gives the room a brilliant appearance. There are improvements in and about the building; and one curiosity, the patent velocipede of General Morris, which claims a place among the "big guns" on the lower floor.

**TWELFTH REGIMENT.**—The following changes have recently taken place in this command: Surgeon Nesmith, of the regimental staff; Captain Teets, of Company H, and Second Lieutenant Gleason, of Company H, have resigned. Charles Greer, late lieutenant of the Fourth regiment, has been elected first lieutenant of Company A, vice Burger, resigned. He is considered an efficient and influential officer. The Twelfth has recently made some important changes in its full-dress uniform. These changes will give them an improved appearance, and at the same time render them unlike, as regards trimmings, the uniform adopted by other regiments. On the occasion of the ball of Company I, which takes place on the 24th of January at Apollo Hall, large numbers of the new uniforms will be worn. This ball will be really a regimental affair, so far as attendance and interest are concerned.

**FIRST BRIGADE CAVALRY.—DECISION IN THE ELECTION APPEAL.** **FIRST REGIMENT.**—Brigadier-General Postley promulgates the decision of the brigade judge-advocate in the case of the election of lieutenant-colonel in the First regiment. The circumstances were: An election to fill the office of lieutenant-colonel was ordered November 15, 1869; Major John Madden received 14 votes, and Captain Henry Fischer 17. Captain Henry Fischer was thereupon declared elected lieutenant-colonel. Major Madden appealed to the brigade-commander, on the ground that the notices for the election were not served in accordance with sections 61, 62 and 138 of the Military Code, but were served by a person who was not either a commissioned officer, non-commissioned officer or a member of the National Guard. The decision of the brigade judge-advocate is:

The statute is explicit as to how a military election is to be conducted, what notice those having the right to vote shall have of the time, place, etc., of the election, and the manner in which the election shall be conducted. The military officer and election is solely a creature of statute, and there is no better settled principle of law than that a statute must and shall be strictly construed and followed, against those claiming a right under it. Any act or thing to be done must be done, and the requirements of the statute entirely carried out and complied with in this election. If this has not been done the election is void, and can only be remedied by a new election.

The election is declared void, therefore, and a new election is ordered to be held at the regimental armory, on the 24th of December.

**THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.**—In compliance with brigade orders, the officers of this command are directed to assemble in fatigue uniform at the armory on Monday, December 27th, at 8 o'clock P. M., for theoretical instruction. Drills by division are ordered at the armory as follows: Companies A, E and H, December 20th, and January 5th and 19th; Companies B and K, December 17th, and January 8th and 22d; Companies D and G, December 22d, and January 6th and 20th. Commandants will alternatively assume command of their respective divisions. The acting adjutant will detail for duty at each of the above-mentioned drills two of the non-commissioned staff. Division line formed at 8 o'clock P. M., prompt. Hereafter commandants of companies will return to regimental courts-martial for collection all dues and fines imposed by their company courts-martial, not exceeding twenty-five dollars. The non-commissioned officers will meet for theoretical instruction on Tuesday, December 21st, at 8 o'clock P. M. Captain Wm. H. Cox will act as instructor. John W. Senior has been appointed commissary-sergeant in place of William A. Bayard, returned to company, by request. The lieutenant-colonel commanding "enjoins upon all the officers and members to give more attention to their company drills; punctual attendance on the part of all; a general desire to obtain a better knowledge of the prescribed tactics, and a generous rivalry between the different companies as regards attendance and perfection at drill, will soon enable the Thirty-seventh to attain an enviable position."

**FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.**—The full-dress reception given by this command at its regimental armory, Fourth street, Brooklyn, E. D., on the evening of the 15th inst., was one of the most successful entertainments it has ever given. The spacious drill-room was elaborately decorated with flags and streamers, and large equestrian paintings of Generals Washington, Grant, Sheridan and others. At the upper end of the room a handsome scroll of gas jets bearing the words "Welcome," and "Forty-seventh regiment N. G. S. N. Y.," was in position, but the gas could not be made to burn. At an early hour the exterior of the building presented an enlivening scene, the whole block on which the armory is situated being well illuminated by calcium lights. By 9 o'clock the main drill room began to fill, and by a little past ten the concert was in full play. This portion of the programme was unusually short, but the selections were of the best character, and were exquisitely rendered by Grafalia's Forty-seventh regiment band. The second part of the programme included fourteen dances, which consumed the time pleasantly until a little past 1 o'clock. The small drill room, adjoining the company rooms, was used as a refreshment saloon, and was under the charge of the famous Downings. The costumes of the large number of ladies present were very elegant; but their effect, and also that of the decorations, was somewhat marred by the inferior quality of the gas. Large representations from other regiments of both divisions were in attendance, and among the guests were Major-General Woodward and staff, commanding Second division; Brigadier-General Meserole and staff, commanding Eleventh brigade; Colonel Scott and Lieutenant-Colonel Dunn, of the Eighth Infantry; Major Roehr, of the Thirty-second battalion, and many others. Among the particular guests of the regiment were several officers of the Second Infantry, Connecticut National Guard, who, last summer, paid such hospitable courtesies to the battalion of the Forty-seventh that visited New Haven. These officers consisted of Colonel Bradley and Lieutenant-Colonel Smith, also Paymaster Bassett and Adjutant Baker, of the regimental staff, and Captain Fox, of Governor Jewell's staff. Major Rogers, of the Forty-seventh, in connection with Captains Holmes, Heathcote and Brower, made an excellent reception committee, and the whole affair passed off in the most agreeable manner.

**FIFTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.**—A short time ago Colonel John A. Reynolds, the commandant of this regiment, which is stationed at Rochester, N. Y., tendered his resignation, but a strong pressure was brought to bear to induce him to withdraw it. The result is disclosed in the following correspondence:

To Colonel John A. Reynolds, commanding Fifty-fourth regiment National Guard State of New York.

Sir: We, the undersigned officers of the Fifty-fourth regiment, learning with regret that you have tendered your resignation as colonel of this regiment, do earnestly and respectfully request that

you will reconsider your action and withdraw the same, believing that such action is necessary for the best interests and future prosperity of our regiment.

Philo Ruspert, captain Company A; F. A. Madden, captain Company C; J. George Baetzler, captain Company D; H. B. Henderson, captain Company E; W. J. Clark, captain Company F; J. H. Wilson, captain Company G; Thomas L. Grant, captain Company H; Daniel O'Neill, captain Company I; R. H. Wardfield, regimental quartermaster; H. A. Smith, commissary of subsistence; Robert J. Lester, adjutant; B. L. Hovey, surgeon; E. Blackford, Jr., first lieutenant Company C; E. O. Bradstreet, second lieutenant Company H; E. F. Babbage, second lieutenant Company E; Robert Lavin, first lieutenant Company I; George A. Wallace, first lieutenant Company H; John Schwarz, first lieutenant Company D; V. P. Schwarz, second lieutenant Company F; C. L. Dods, first lieutenant Company F; Charles B. Campbell, second lieutenant Company C; Jacob Schaller, second lieutenant Company I; John N. Wetzel, first lieutenant Company B; F. C. Lauer, Jr., first lieutenant Company G; P. Reinhardt, second lieutenant Company B; H. H. Van Dolah, second lieutenant Company G.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., December 11, 1869.

**Officers of the Fifty-fourth regiment.**

GENTLEMEN: In consideration of the flattering request made by so large a number of officers, I have concluded to ask for the withdrawal of my resignation, if it has not already been acted upon by the proper authorities. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN A. REYNOLDS.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., December 14, 1869.

**INDEPENDENT VETERAN VOLUNTEERS OF Poughkeepsie.**—Our correspondent "Eugene" writes us that "This company, commanded by Captain William Platto, held a festival and exhibition drill Wednesday, Dec. 8th, in the Collingwood Opera House. The drill was executed by a portion of the company only, and was mostly in the bayonet exercise. The McClellan system was employed, and the movements were admirably performed. The men were of a remarkably soldierly, well put together stamp. Some of the combined movements in particular were finely done, and very simultaneously. Several rallies from the skirmish drill were introduced, with which no fault could be found except that the movements were rather too formal; the men forming groups, and coming to right-shoulder-shift before commencing the march toward the rallying-point. The drill ended with several fancy movements which were gone through in elegant style, among which were rallies in which one-third of the company formed a pyramid by standing on the shoulders of the others, who stood or knelt. At the "long roll" the company rallied to resist an attack by a party of simulated gray-backs, who after a brief exchange of shots were all placed *hors du combat*; which ended the drill in a very effective manner. Refreshments were then served by the lady friends of the company. The large audience were highly gratified with the entertainment."

**THE COUNTY APPROPRIATION** for the repairs to armories, etc., will, we are informed, be at least \$1,400,000 for ten months of the year 1869. Now, where does all this money go? How much benefit do the regiments of the division get from it? The taxpayers sometimes grumble at the expense of our citizen-soldiers; let them rather grumble at their rulers. It is not the National Guard that benefits by all this money. To-day there are still many regiments in want of suitable quarters for drilling.

**THE NATIONAL GUARD CASE—Johnson against Clark.**—On the 13th of December the General Term of the Supreme Court pronounced its decision in the case of Johnson against Clark—unanimously in favor of the defendant. Colonel Clark is, therefore, now at liberty to publish, in orders, the expulsion of plaintiff from the Fourth company, the court having emphatically declined further to interfere with the exercise of a discretion wisely reposed in regimental commandants by the Military Code. Although we have from time to time kept our readers advised of the progress of this litigation—now presumed to be at an end—we cannot but think that all National Guardsmen will be pleased if we present them with a resume of the whole case.

In the month of August, 1866, the plaintiff, Artemus B. Johnson, enlisted in the Fourth company, Seventh regiment N. G. S. N. Y., and on the 26th of June, 1868, was expelled by said company for a violation of the company by-laws, namely, non-attendance at drills. On the 6th of August following, Captain William H. Kipp, commanding said Fourth company, transmitted to Colonel Clark a record of such expulsion for approval, which was returned by Colonel Clark to Captain Kipp on the 30th of November, with the following qualified disapproval:

Respectfully returned, calling the attention of the commandant to paragraph 10 of General Orders No. 18, from General Headquarters, dated July 29, 1868, and published in General Regimental Orders No. 17, current series.

Until the order above referred to is amended or revoked the commandant can only approve expulsions "when founded on general bad character unfitting the possessor for association with gentlemen, or base misconduct."

At present, therefore, the punishment for neglect of duty, absence from drills, etc., must be repeated fines, which must be regularly returned to regimental court-martial, as provided for by by-laws (see section 252 Military Code) for collection in the same manner as regimental fines.

On the 7th of December following, Captain Kipp transmitted to Colonel Clark a communication which, after quoting the law and arguing the points of the case with marked ability, concluded thus:

I respectfully beg to differ from your construction of paragraph 108 of General Orders No. 18, Adjutant-General's Office, July 29, 1868, believing from the reading thereof that the Adjutant-General does not nullify paragraphs Nos. 160 and 161 Military Code, 1866, but enjoins commanding officers of regiments to be cautious that expulsions are not approved except after careful consideration, and for good and sufficient reasons.

Doubting the intention or the power of the Adjutant-General to alter in any manner the Military Code passed by an act of the Legislature, and abolish and nullify all by-laws in conformance therewith, I respectfully ask that you will reconsider your decision in case referred to; and, if necessary, that you will refer the matter to the highest authority.

This communication passed through the various headquarters in regular course, and reached the Adjutant-General (Marvin) on or about the 21st of December, 1868, who immediately "respectfully returned" the same with an endorsement claiming that the right of companies to expel, although actually repealed by a statute subsequent in date to that of 1862, had been inadvertently "retained in place" by the Military Code.

The said endorsement reached Captain Kipp in the early part of January, 1869, when, nothing daunted—for he seemed determined to fight it out on that line—he forwarded a rejoinder containing, among other things, the pertinent queries:

1. Are paragraphs Nos. 160 and 161, chap. 477, Military Code, a part of the State law now in force?

2. Does sec. 146, chap. 562, Addenda Military Code, relative to discharges, repeal sections 160 and 161, chap. 477, Military Code, relative to expulsions?

Captain Kipp was willing "for the sake of argument," to concede all that had been advanced by General Marvin relative to State service, expulsions, etc.

I stand on the law, said the captain, as I find it. It is not ambiguous, but clear and explicit.



Section 140, in the addenda Military Code relative to discharges, does not repeal paragraphs 100 and 161 Military Code, relative to expulsions.

What is an expulsion? and what is a discharge?

An expulsion by a company is not a discharge from military service due the State; paragraph 161, which allows companies to expel members, expressly provides that the term of service of an expelled member in said company shall not be allowed under the provisions of this act.

The State hereby gains the time already served, while the expelled member is still liable to the State for full service.

The ordinary grammatical as well as military meaning of the words "expel" and "discharge" are not synonymous. To "expel" means to drive out, to force away; to "discharge" means to release from an obligation, claim, debt, or penalty.

A member expelled from a company, is shut out and excluded from association therewith, and not credited with the time he has already served in the company.

By such expulsion he is not discharged from military service due the State.

A member can only be discharged from a company for "physical disability or expiration of term of service." He then is not indebted to the State for further service, but is eligible to honorary membership and association with his company.

There is, therefore, no inconsistency or conflict between the section of the Military Code relative to discharges and the section relative to expulsions.

This endorsement was duly transmitted through the usual channels, to Major-General Townsend, who, on the retirement of General Marvin, January 1, 1869, had been commissioned Adjutant-General of the State. General Townsend, after holding the matter under advisement several days—for the papers had now assumed rather bulky proportions—finally, Feb. 20, 1869, addressed a letter direct to Captain Kipp, announcing that it had been determined at General Headquarters to abrogate Paragraph 10, of General Orders No. 18, and thus remove the impediment which had temporarily prevented Colonel Clark from directly approving of Mr. Johnson's expulsion. The abrogation is known as General Order No. 7, and is as follows:

Paragraph 10, of General Orders No. 18, series of 1868, is hereby abrogated; but commanders of regiments are enjoined to exercise great circumspection in approving the expulsion of members, to the end that the right of expulsion given by section 161 of the Military Code shall not be abused.

On the 24th of March ensuing, Captain Kipp addressed a further communication to Colonel Clark, briefly reciting the proceedings already had, and requesting that the Adjutant-General's opinion be obtained on the following points:

I. Artemus B. Johnson, having been expelled by this company for violation of its By-laws, and his expulsion having been in strict accordance with paragraphs 100 and 161 of the Military Code, was the action of the company legal?

II. Did Paragraph 10, of General Orders No. 18, series of 1868, issued from Adjutant-General's office July 29, 1868, actually and legally suspend or abolish the Military Code, until said Paragraph 10, of General Orders No. 18 was abrogated by General Order No. 7, Adjutant-General's office, dated February 20, 1869, and were expulsions that were made in accordance with the Military Code between the dates of July 29, 1868, and February 20, 1869, legal or illegal?

III. Was it not the intention of the Adjutant-General, in his letter to the undersigned, dated February 20, 1869 (a copy of which is hereto annexed), to imply that General Orders No. 7, series of 1869, covered the case of the expulsion of Artemus B. Johnson, the matter of his expulsion having been the subject of the former communication and indorsed thereon.

This last communication from Captain Kipp having been duly forwarded, was returned by Adjutant-General Townsend with the following indorsement:

Respectfully returned, with the information that, in my opinion, the validity and force of sections 160 and 161 of the Military Code could not be affected by a general order, and, therefore, paragraph 10 of General Orders No. 18, series of 1868, was inoperative, and consequently does not affect the case of Artemus B. Johnson.

Nothing now remained to be done but the publication, in orders, by Colonel Clark, of Mr. Johnson's expulsion. Mr. Johnson, however, having received such small aid and comfort from the military authorities, determined to invoke the assistance of a legal tribunal, and accordingly, in the early part of last May, instituted an action in the Supreme Court against Colonel Clark, for the purpose of obtaining a judgment "that the said defendant, as colonel commanding said regiment, and his subordinate officers, may be enjoined and restrained from promulgating or approving the pretended expulsion of this plaintiff by said company, or taking any action in relation thereto, or from requiring this plaintiff to deliver up his certificate of membership, and that the action of said company in expelling this plaintiff may be adjudged illegal and void."

At the same time Mr. Johnson's counsel, Captain George W. Wingate, obtained from Judge Clarke a temporary injunction, with the usual order, requiring Colonel Clark to show cause, on a certain day, why the said injunction should not be made permanent.

Colonel John Fowler, Jr., was retained and appeared as counsel for Colonel Clark.

The motion to render the injunction permanent was argued before Judge Ingraham, June 23, 1869.

On the argument Captain Wingate contended—

1st. That Mr. Johnson had, prior to the alleged expulsion, been regularly transferred from the Fourth to the Fifth Company.

2d. That after Mr. Johnson had ceased to be a member of the Fourth Company he was, without service of charges, and without having been afforded any trial, expelled by said Fourth Company.

3d. That the action of said Fourth Company was disapproved by Colonel Clark; that such disapproval was approved by the Adjutant-General; that thereby the proceedings of said Fourth Company became vacated and of no effect, and could not be subsequently revived.

4th. That the publication in orders of the expulsion, would not only expose Mr. Johnson to great and unmerited odium, but subject him to the forfeiture of his certificate of membership and the loss of the two years time he had already served in the regiment.

5th. That Sec. 146, Chap. 502, Laws of 1867, providing that all members of the National Guard shall be held to duty therein for the term of seven years, except in cases of disability, or when regularly discharged by the commandant of the regiment, is inconsistent with the law of 1862 authorizing company expulsions, and is a repeal thereof.

Colonel Fowler, in behalf of Colonel Clark, produced voluminous affidavits of Captain Kipp, Lieutenant Woodhouse and Sergeant Myatt, from which he argued—

1st. That Mr. Johnson was never regularly transferred from the Fourth Company to the Fifth Company, but was a member of the Fourth Company at the time of his expulsion.

2d. That he was properly expelled by the Fourth Company after due and timely service of written charges, based upon gross violations of the company by-laws; that he was personally present at the court-martial which recommended, and, at the company meeting which passed upon his expulsion, and that on every occasion he had the fullest and fairest opportunity of presenting whatever defense he might deem available.

3d. That the "disapproval" indorsed by Colonel Clark was a qualified one, and became of no effect after General Townsend's ab-

rogation of General Marvin's "Paragraph 10 of General Orders No. 18."

4th. That the Statute of 1862 (Sec. 161 Military Code) is not at all inconsistent with Sec. 146 of Chapter 520, Laws of 1867 (page 12 Addenda Military Code), for the latter relates to expulsions while the former refers only to discharges.

5th. That there was nothing material in Mr. Johnson's papers not fairly met and fully denied by Colonel Clark's answer and the documentary evidence and affidavits appended thereto, that there were no substantial grounds for the injunction, and that its continuance would interfere with the discipline and impair the efficiency of the National Guard.

At the close of the argument Judge Ingraham declared that he was unable to see how he could do otherwise than dissolve the injunction. Captain Wingate stated his earnest desire to carry the case to the General Term, and, at his request, the judge inserted in the order dissolving the injunction, a clause, staying Colonel Clark from publishing the expulsion until the decision of the full bench.

The appeal was argued, by the same counsel, before Judges Clarke, Sutherland and Cardozo, on the 16th day of November last, resulting, as we have already stated, in the unanimous decision of the court adverse to Mr. Johnson. In announcing this decision the learned presiding justice (Clarke) who had issued the injunction, delivered the opinion of the full bench, as follows:

The ground upon which the plaintiff maintains that the expulsion was illegal and void, seems to me clearly untenable. He was, undoubtedly, entitled to a fair trial and notice, and proceeded by written charges. The answer of the defendant and the affidavits of Kipp, Hyatt and Woodhouse, show that he was tried upon notice and upon written charges duly served; and, not only this, but that during the trial he attended the court-martial and company meeting. Paragraphs 100 and 161 of the Military Code are not repealed; it, therefore, cannot be disputed that the company court-martial had the power to expel. It is contended that the defendant as commandant of the regiment, disapproved of the sentence, and that the disapproval cannot now be recalled. This disapproval was qualified and was communicated under a misapprehension of the power of the Adjutant-General of the State. The defendant yielded for the time to the Adjutant-General's order, in which he announced that expulsion should only be approved when founded upon general bad character or base misconduct. The subsequent order of Adjutant-General Townsend abrogated this order, which was, in fact, never valid, and left the defendant free to exercise his discretion, and it would not be proper for us to prevent him giving due effect to the recommendation of the company court-martial if he approves of it and deems such approval conducive to the discipline and efficiency of the regiment. The injunction should be dissolved with costs.

A formal order was thereupon entered affirming the order made by Judge Ingraham June 23, 1869, dissolving the injunction issued by Judge Clarke May 10th.

Colonel Clark is thus relieved from all restraint hitherto imposed upon the exercise of his discretion. While we regret the unfortunate position in which Mr. Johnson finds himself placed after his unsuccessful appeal to the courts, we cannot but rejoice at the triumph of the principle which Captain Kipp set out to establish. This principle contended for by the captain with so much zeal and ability may be briefly stated thus:

1. That companies of the National Guard may expel members for violation of company by-laws.

2. That no adjutant-general can, by order, circular, pronouncement, or edict, change the spirit of the Military Code.

3. That our courts will not sustain injunctions interfering with the discipline of the National Guard, in cases where that discipline appears to be wholesome and within the limits prescribed by the Legislature.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company E to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Captain O. P. Smith, Major E. S. Euston presiding, First Lieutenant James S. Turner was unanimously elected captain, and Second Lieutenant Edwin Imlay was chosen first lieutenant by the same flattering vote. Sergeant Charles E. Brown was afterward elected second lieutenant. Major Euston made some very complimentary remarks to the company on the wisdom of their selection, and spoke in a flattering manner of the newly-elected captain. Captain Turner has been a member of the regiment about nine years; has risen from the ranks, and has filled every position he has been called upon to fill with credit. He will, no doubt, be a faithful, energetic and efficient officer, and will be ably supported by his lieutenants, who are also considered excellent soldiers.

Since the successful beginning of the musical and dramatic entertainments by Company G, some two weeks since, other companies have determined to follow in the same course, and carry out the plans proposed in the report of the committee on the State of the regiment. Company B, we are glad to hear, has in active preparation a Shakespearean piece to be shortly introduced to its friends. It is the intention, we understand, that the members of the company shall fill the different parts. Other companies in the regiment are agitating the entertainment plan, and, taking it all in all, this command is happily relieving the monotonous work of the drill season with that of pleasant diversion. The fitting up of the regimental armory progresses rapidly, and it is expected everything will soon be in readiness for the general opening to be given shortly. The 23d of February is the date spoken of, but it is expected before that time.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—On Monday evening last an election was held at the regimental armory—General Burger presiding—to fill the vacancy of lieutenant-colonel, caused by the resignation of Lieutenant-Colonel Hillenbrand. Seventeen votes were cast, which were distributed as follows: Captain Peter Kraeger, of Company C, 13; Quartermaster Allen, 2; blank, 2. Captain Kraeger was thereupon declared elected, and accepted the position. The whole number of votes cast was small for this command, many of the officers absenting themselves, apparently to avoid voting. It is well to state in this connection that Quartermaster Allen had withdrawn his name before the election, and was therefore not a candidate. In the selection of Captain Kraeger the officers have acted wisely. He is an officer standing well in the regiment, and considered entirely capable. He commanded one of the best companies in the regiment, and has been generally conceded in and out of the Fifth as an excellent officer.

On Tuesday evening last Company A held its annual ball at the Germania Assembly Rooms. The ball was a pleasant affair, and well managed. Captain Burmeister, commandant of the company, with the aid of a well chosen committee, rendered everything pleasant for guests.

TAX EXEMPTION.—Major-General Woodward, commanding the Second division, deserves considerable credit for the individual time and expense used in fighting the Board of Assessors in relation to the exemption from taxation to which the members not only of his command but the entire National Guard are justly entitled; but, claiming that this section of the act has been repealed, the Assessors have refused to allow this exemption. General Woodward, in October last, caused a suit on his own account to be brought against this Board as a test case. The case was heard at the Special Term

of the Supreme Court, by Judge Gilbert, who decided that a mandamus issue to the Board of Assessors, directing them to allow the customary exemption to each member of the National Guard. From this decision, however, the Board appealed to the General Term of the Supreme Court, which was held this month, and it has again been decided in favor of General Woodward or the National Guard. A circular, issued from the Second division headquarters, announces the decision.

EIGHTH REGIMENT.—At an election held in Company G on Tuesday evening last, Colonel Scott presiding, the following were declared elected: First Lieutenant John P. Leslie, captain, vice Wm. H. Heathcote, expiration of term of service; Private R. F. Leslie, first lieutenant, vice John P. Leslie, promoted; Private Michael O'Connor sergeant, original vacancy; Private Felix Enny second corporal, vice Spear transferred; Private Thomas Walsh third corporal, vice Max Ebler resigned; Private H. S. Canavan fourth corporal, vice Barnett transferred. This company intend giving a promenade and hop at the new armory, corner of Twenty-seventh street and Ninth avenue, at its completion. Company A had a very pleasant reunion at the armory, on the evening of the 17th inst. Companies D and E had a good drill on Wednesday evening last, under command of their second lieutenants. The non-commissioned officers of this regiment will drill on the 28th inst.; also January 6th, 14th, 17th and 25th. The commissioned officers held a drill and sword exercise on Thursday evening last. The regiment commences to look up a little since the newly-elected officers have taken charge. The regimental ball, which was to take place on December 22d, has been postponed, and will take place at Irving Hall on Monday evening January 3d.

FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.—In compliance with division and brigade orders, Batteries A, D, F, G and I will assemble at the regimental armory on Monday, December 27th, in full uniform. Roll call at 7½ o'clock p. m. Commandants of batteries consolidated, and all commissioned officers rendered supernumerary will turn over to the adjutant all books, papers, records and State property. The commissioned and non-commissioned staff will assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, on Monday, 27th inst., at 7½ o'clock p. m.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.—The annual invitation ball of Troop E, Captain G. E. Keller commanding, was held on the 20th inst. at the Germania Assembly Rooms. It was a pleasant success, and well attended.

EIGHTY-FOURTH REGIMENT.—On Monday last, at the armory of this regiment, the members and friends of Company K, Captain James Douglas commanding, enjoyed their sixth annual ball. Everything passed off to the satisfaction of the merry company.

#### CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS S. N. Y.,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Dec. 21, 1869.

The following-named persons have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the N. G. S. N. Y. during the two weeks commencing December 6, 1869, and ending December 18, 1869:

##### FIFTH BRIGADE.

J. Lester Keep, surgeon, with rank from November 22d, vice Thomas McAllister, resigned.

##### FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Marquis B. Spaulding, adjutant, with rank from October 9th, vice M. L. Mackenzie, resigned.

J. Pool Garrish, Jr., assistant surgeon, with rank from November 15th, vice B. F. Dawson, resigned.

George Conover, second lieutenant, with rank from October 5th, vice J. U. Langbein, promoted.

William McKee, first lieutenant, with rank from November 25th, vice Alexander D. Bailey, declined.

##### FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Lorenz Kirchof, first lieutenant, with rank from December 2d, vice L. W. Geisler, promoted.

George G. Fuessel, second lieutenant, with rank from December 2d, vice L. Kirchof, promoted.

John Zimmer, first lieutenant, with rank from November 12th, vice Jacob Eidt, resigned.

Hans N. Burmeister, captain, with rank from November 17th, vice John E. Meyer, resigned.

##### EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Joshua R. Hills, adjutant, with rank from November 23d, vice N. Gano Dunn, promoted.

David P. Arnold, quartermaster, with rank from November 23d, reappointed.

Nelson Place, Jr., surgeon, with rank from November 22d, reappointed.

Louis Bloom, first lieutenant, with rank from November 19th, vice Joseph A. Joel, resigned.

##### NINTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Henry A. Tobias, captain, with rank from November 15th, vice A. D. Davis, resigned.

##### TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Henry Goepfer, first lieutenant, with rank from November 24th, vice John Gröbel, resigned.

##### FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John G. Dunn, commissary of subsistence, with rank from December 5th, vice V. G. Edwards, resigned.

##### SIXTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Donald L. Cameron, second lieutenant, with rank from October 4th, vice G. R. Waldon, promoted.

##### SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

William S. Stanley, captain, with rank from November 29th, vice E. S. Euston, promoted.

Henry E. White, first lieutenant, with rank from November 29th, vice W. S. Stanley, promoted.

William O. Dow, second lieutenant, with rank from November 29th, vice H. K. White, promoted.

#### RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations of officers have been accepted during the same period:

##### BATTALION OF ARTILLERY, TWENTY-FOURTH BRIGADE.

Major Jacob Brand, December 10th.

##### FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Second Lieutenant Arthur Spooner, December 11th.

First Lieutenant Garrett Roach, December 18th.

##### EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant Henry K. Becker, December 10th.

##### ELEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Captain George Schlichter, December 11th.

First Lieutenant Gustav Rechin, December 18th.

##### TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant Eugene A. Heath, December 11th.

First Lieutenant James S. Franklin, December 18th.

##### TWENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant Dennis Nugent, December 18th.

##### TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Captain Henry Werper, December 10th.

First Lieutenant Valentine Schenck, December 10th.

##### THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Colonel Francis W. Leggett, December 18th.



**FIFTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.**  
Second Lieutenant Charles B. Campbell, December 11th.  
**SIXTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.**  
Second Lieutenant John C. Schmidt, December 10th.  
**SEVENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.**  
Quartermaster Philip Miller, December 17th.  
**NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.**  
Captain Charles H. Rahe, December 18th.

**Vertical Railways** have removed a great objection to large hotels. One of the finest in the country is that in the **AMERICAN HOUSE, BOSTON.** Messrs. Rice have left nothing undone for the comfort of their patrons.

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**INGERSOLL—OGILVIE.**—At St. Paul's M. E. Church, on Tuesday evening, December 21, 1869, by the Rev. Daniel Lancaster, D. D., assisted by the Rev. H. B. Ridgway, D. D., JAMES H. INGERSOLL, to IDA M., daughter of Wm. H. Ogilvie, Esq.

**NOLAN—SAYERS.**—At the residence of the bride's parents, St. Louis, Mo., at 12 o'clock, M., December 14, 1869, by the Rev. Carlos Martyn, Captain FRANK NOLAN, Deputy Collector of the Port of Wilmington, Delaware, to Miss MARY SAYERS, of St. Louis, Mo. (No Cards.)

**DIED.**

**MACOMBER.**—On the 19th September, at Camp Bowie, Arizona, GEORGE MACOMBER, First Lieutenant Twenty-first U. S. Infantry.

**JACOBS.**—At West Chester, Penna., on the 17th December, 1869, after a protracted illness, MARY E. JACOBS, wife of Thomas B. Jacobs, and daughter of the late Com. Jesse D. Elliott, U. S. Navy, aged 54 years.

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